

VIEW 38
MAJOR MUST
HOULDER HIS
PONSIBILITIES
EDITOR JOHN BELL

Citicorp
directors
receive
\$5.5m

OUR service directors of
corp were paid salary and
uses totaling more than
million last year. A
Africa's largest bank more
a loss to profit.
John Reed, chairman,
paid a salary of \$1.02
million, plus a bonus of
\$1.02 million. His total
is also a record. Reed's
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is a 10 per cent increase
on \$1.86 million in 1992.
Over the last year, Reed
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Reed's bonus was \$1.02
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cent increase on \$1.86
million in 1991.



GLOOMY BRITAIN?

It's even worse on the Continent

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Why hospital is the best vantage point

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Death of a master

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THE TIMES

No. 64,575

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23 1993

45p



Street rage: police struggling to control an angry crowd in Bootle yesterday. People surged through the cordon in a vain attempt to get to the vans holding the boys accused of murdering James Bulger

Mob vents anger at Bulger hearing

By RONALD FAUX

AN ANGRY crowd hurled missiles and abuse at police vans carrying two boys aged ten yesterday from a youth court in Bootle, Merseyside where they had been accused of abducting and murdering two-year-old James Bulger, and attempting to abduct another child. The boys were ordered to be held in council care until March 3.

Seven men were arrested when a crowd of about 300 pushed towards the vehicles as they drove from a rear entrance of the court building. One was charged with disorderly conduct and the others were released. Stones and an egg hit the roof of one vehicle in spite of a strong police presence with lines of officers, seven motor-cycle outriders and reinforcements standing by. A man hurled himself towards one van, which was forced to stop. The man was brought to the ground by a rugby tackle.

There were cries of "Kill the bastards" and "A life for a life" as the convoy drove away. The demonstrators banged on the side of one van before police dragged them away.

People at the side of the building surged through the police cordon in a vain attempt to stop the vans. Police struggled to keep the crowd under control and some men were bundled into a police van. Others were led by police into the court building as the crowd chanted after them "Let them go, let them go".

First-aid workers were standing by as police lifted a man clear from the path of the second van. The man appeared to have tripped and fallen.

The disturbance lasted several minutes before the crowd began to disperse. The anger erupted despite appeals from the police and James Bulger's family for calm.

Hattersley attacks party sacred cows

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL
CORRESPONDENT

PRESSURE on John Smith to overhaul the structure of the Labour party will intensify today with a call from Roy Hattersley for the scrapping of the constitutional clause on public ownership and for a drastic weakening of the party's links with the trade unions.

Two weeks after Mr Smith indicated that he did not intend to engage in a "theological" row over Clause 4, which historically commits Labour to public ownership, Mr Hattersley says in *The Times* today that "a radical party cannot afford to pay homage to a clause... which has nothing to commend it except senility."

There were signs last night that, in spite of his earlier reticence, Mr Smith may be prepared to respond to the clamour for change. Sources close to the Labour leader suggested that his mind was not closed on the issue.

The former deputy leader's intervention comes on the eve of tomorrow's crucial national executive meeting, which will

Roy Hattersley is calling for Labour to ditch its commitment to nationalisation. John Smith faces this challenge as the Labour party discusses trade union links

discuss the future of Labour's links with the trade unions. Mr Hattersley and other leading "modernisers" are likely to be disappointed by the report of the union-party review group, which concluded after a six-month study that the unions should continue to wield substantial voting strength at the annual conference.

Unable to agree on proposals for changing the systems for choosing parliamentary candidates, electing leaders, and voting at the conference, the group will tomorrow propose a series of options on each. But it strongly defends the links with the unions, and all the options for reforming conference voting envisage the unions retaining at least half the vote.

Mr Hattersley uses his article in *The Times* to propose a new constitution making plain that Labour is the party of equality. He says: "The time has come formally to renounce the notion that socialism is synonymous with public ownership. Today's Clause 4 contains a promise which a vast majority of the party has never wished to keep."

Mr Smith argued in his interview with *The Times* that engaging in a battle to scrap the clause would be a diversion. Mr Hattersley takes the argument head-on. He says



that if its retention did no more than give comfort to the Tories there might be a case for keeping it. But unthinking allegiance to the precepts of Clause 4 diverts attention, inside and outside the party, from Labour's real purpose, he says.

In its place, Mr Hattersley proposes what would be Labour's strongest ever commitment to the mixed economy. The constitution should state that the liberty of the individual "requires private and public enterprise to exist side by side in a free market regulated in the public interest", he says.

Mr Smith will tomorrow tell

the executive where he stands on the review group recommendations. He will back the option proposing that leaders should be elected by party members and MPs, and not the unions.

Symbolically, the most important change will be that on the selection of MPs. Neil Kinnock, Mr Hattersley and others are urging Mr Smith to go for a straight one member, one vote system, cutting out the role of the unions. Mr Smith is believed to see advantages a system that would allow trade unionists to cast a vote in the guise of "registered supporters". However, the bureaucracy that would involve is thought likely to sway him in favour of the modernisers' plan.

The overall report is fiercely defensive of the union link. It speaks of the "realistic and stabilising" role unions bring to the party, and the need to make gradual changes to the present system, which gives unions 70 per cent of the vote at conference and party members 30 per cent. The report's conservatism will worry Mr Hattersley and many members of the shadow cabinet.

Mr Hattersley writes in *The Times* that the unions will only pay Labour's bills while they dominate policy decisions. "That they must not be allowed to do, Labour must become a party of ideas, not of vested interests," he says. "That status is not compatible with a tacit trade union veto on free thought."

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Tories quiz Clarke on youth crime

By NICHOLAS WOOD
AND RICHARD FORD

CONSERVATIVE MPs were questioning Kenneth Clarke at Westminster last night after calling an urgent meeting to scrutinise the government's plans to tackle teenage crime.

Amid mounting backbench concern that ministers lacked credible and swift remedies, the home secretary faced a bumpy ride from worried Tories fearful that the Conservatives were in danger of being outflanked by Labour on the law and order front.

His appearance before Tory MPs came after Tony Blair, the shadow home secretary, demanded action to combat juvenile crime and deal with a small number of persistent young offenders in each community involved in anti-social behaviour. Though Mr Blair admitted that some young offenders were so out of control they needed to be held in secure accommodation, Labour is opposed to ministerial plans for those aged 12 to 15 to be detained in new

Continued on page 2, col 6

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Fowler blamed for US election row

By PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE British government last night took steps to distance the prime minister from the involvement of senior Tory officials in advising the Bush election campaign last autumn, in an attempt to clear the air for a successful first meeting at the White House tomorrow between John Major and President Clinton.

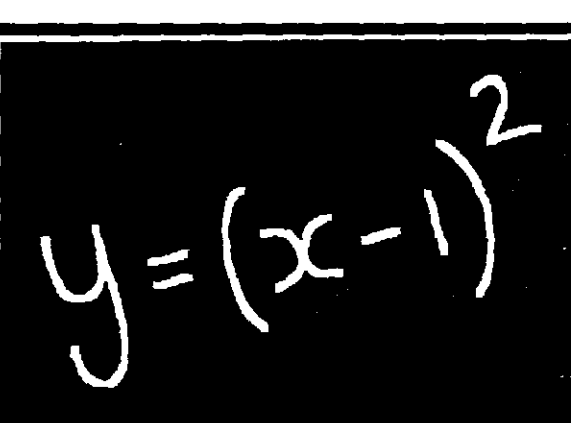
A senior British official disclosed that the visit by two officials of Conservative Central Office, at the invitation of Republicans, had been cleared by Sir Norman Fowler, the Tory chairman, but that he had not informed Mr Major, Downing Street officials, and British diplomats in Washington, have been openly critical of the Tory visit, which drew attacks from senior Democrats in the Clinton campaign team.

A report in the *Los Angeles Times* by William Tuohy on Saturday was even tougher in quoting a top Major aide as saying: "Our view at Number Ten of the party's election campaign is unprintable, and the idea of them telling someone else how to conduct a winning election campaign is really laughable. We won't spring despite the campaign."

Mr Tuohy confirmed that the comment came from a Downing Street briefing.

The issue was raised again last night by a Granada *World in Action* television programme, which highlighted the visit to America in early September by Sir John Lacy, the then campaign director at Central Office, and Mark Fullbrook, then head of campaigning, to advise the Bush team on the successful Tory election effort last spring. This was followed by some Republican advertisements strongly attacking Mr Clinton over taxes and prices. Raymond

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London places top chess bid

By DANIEL JOHNSON

THE world chess championship between Gary Kasparov, 29, and Britain's Nigel Short, 27, is likely to be held in London next September, after the television company Channel 4 last night outbid a Manchester consortium with a last-minute offer of £1.2 million to stage the match.

A decision is expected to be made today by Florencio Campomanes, president of the international chess federation (Fide), after sealed envelopes were opened last night in the federation's headquarters in Lucerne, Switzerland.

Kasparov, the world champion, indicated last week on a

visit to London that he would be "very happy" to play there. Nigel Short, who was born near Manchester but lives in London, could not be contacted last night but is thought to be happy to play in either city.

Channel 4's interest in the match was aroused only last Wednesday by a charity challenge at Simpson's-in-the-Strand, sponsored by *The Times*, at which Kasparov played 25 teams to raise money for the Sick Children's Trust. Senior executives at Channel 4 were so impressed by the publicity this event received that they decided to bid for the Short-Kasparov

Managers plan buyout at Leyland DAF plant

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

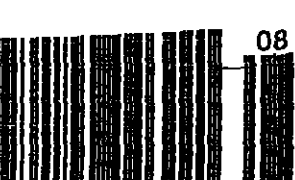
MANAGERS at the Leyland DAF lorry assembly factory in Lancashire are to mount a buyout bid after the plant was excluded from a rescue of the continental operations of the DAF truck company because the British government declined to participate. The buyout plan was announced by John Gilchrist, managing director of the British arm of the collapsed lorry company.

The managers hope to set up a separate UK truck company supplying some vehicles to the new DAF Trucks on the continent. The move could

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Mother drowned baby after series of errors by social workers

By IAN MURRAY

A SEVEN-week-old baby, drowned in a kitchen sink by its mother who was suffering from a depressive illness, died because of a catalogue of oversights, delays and errors of judgment by child protection staff, according to reports published yesterday.

Doctors and psychiatrists were well aware of the risk to Mia Gibelli even before she was born, but social workers failed to act on warnings or realise the danger she was in. By the time they did it was too late.

The events that led to Mia's drowning by her mother, Christine Gibelli, were set out in three reports published by Lambeth Borough Council, south London.

Social workers were singled out for particular criticism in an independent internal review ordered by the council, which claimed that even after they grasped the significance of the case they displayed "poor professional judgment and a wish for things to be 'all right' despite the weight of history".

The report concluded: "Throughout the review it became apparent that social workers and team leaders failed to make appropriate decisions which would have reduced risks and more readily protected Mia."

The authors rejected claims that pressure of work, staff

shortages and unallocated cases caused Mia to be left unprotected.

The background to the case was given at the Old Bailey, when Gibelli, 36, pleaded guilty to infanticide and was committed to Cane Hill psychiatric hospital in Surrey by the Recorder of London, Judge Lawrence Verney. He told her: "It is perfectly clear from a host of medical evidence that the balance of your mind was disturbed at the time as a direct result of giving birth to that child."

Although the council was said to have provided a "battalion of carers" after the baby was born, it took responsibility for failing to protect her life.

Anne Rafferty, for the prosecution, said that Gibelli suffered from severe post-natal depression and pre-menstrual tension, which got progressively worse after the birth of all three of her daughters. She had tried to kill the first baby five years ago by throwing her out of a third-floor window, but fortunately the child had landed on a lawn and survived the fall.

Gibelli was placed on probation for three years and that baby and a second daughter were both in care when her third child, Mia, was born last May.

She had ignored advice then to stay in a special unit for two weeks after the birth and

discharged herself from the Maudsley hospital, south London, to take a hormone treatment prescribed by a Harley Street specialist.

According to Alun Jones QC, for the defence, "she was advised and surrounded by a battalion of carers but they failed to prevent a predictable tragedy". On the day Mia was drowned there was to be a case conference to decide whether she should be put in care.

Mr Jones said it was now clear that she had drowned the baby precisely because she was worried about the conference. "She felt she might be criticised and simply felt she was not capable of making the physical and mental effort to get the baby and herself dressed and be there on time."

She left her boy friend sleeping in bed and put the baby in the sink where she turned on the tap and held the child there until she stopped breathing.

"It was deliberate," she told a detective. "I could not cope. It has been a nightmare. I was not doing anything right. I was not being a good mother."

Steve Whaley, Lambeth council leader, said after the case: "The council accepts the errors made in this case. However, there is no denying that the workload placed on staff poses great difficulties in their struggle to act in the best interest of the many children in need."

Soap star acquitted of murder

By A STAFF REPORTER

A FORMER television soap opera actor was found not guilty yesterday of battering to death the wife of a war hero.

An Old Bailey jury was directed to acquit Frederick Bartman, 67, at the end of the prosecution case, because the evidence showed it was "inherently improbable" he was the killer of Lady Brenda Cross.

Lady Cross, 73, the wife of Air Chief Marshal Sir Kenneth Cross, was struck repeatedly with fire irons at an antique shop in Pinlco, south west London, where she worked part-time for Bartman, who starred as Dr Simon Forrester in the 1960s series *Emergency Ward Ten*.

Det. Supt. Ken Woodward, who led the murder investigation, said outside court: "We are not looking for anyone else in connection with this enquiry unless anything new comes up. It is not going to be reopened."

During the trial, David Calvert-Smith, for the prosecution, had alleged that Bartman attacked Lady Cross in the basement of his shop. He then used skills "honed in half a lifetime as a successful actor to feign shock and sorrow".

The prosecution alleged that on the day of the murder in September 1991 Bartman was in a bad mood. He had had just had to pay over £40,000 in back rent and the business was not doing well.

However, Mr Calvert-Smith told the jury he could put forward no motive to explain why Bartman, or anyone else, would want to murder Lady Cross.

Novice climbers blamed for deaths

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A COMBINATION of appalling weather conditions and an increase in inexperienced climbers taking to the Scottish hills was blamed yesterday for the high number of mountaineering deaths in Scotland already this year. In the past seven weeks 14 people have died, including four at the weekend, almost half the number that died in the whole of 1990.

Scores more climbers have had to be rescued. The level of activity has led to some rescue members suggesting that climbers take out insurance against the cost of a rescue.

Hamish MacInnes, leader of the Glencoe mountain rescue team and one of Scotland's most experienced climbers, said the events of the past few weeks have put a huge strain on his rescue team, many of whom are self-employed.

In one weekend this year the team was called out to 11 incidents. While he is against the idea of paying for a rescue, he believes that it may become necessary as more people take to the hills.

Most mountain rescue teams in Britain are made up of volunteers who buy their own equipment and four-wheel-drive vehicles, often paid for by fund raising. By far the most expensive element of a rescue is the cost of a helicopter. Sea King search and rescue helicopters supplied by the RAF cost £3,000 an hour to run. Even a pair of climbing boots can cost as much as £100 and last no more than a season.

The death toll of 14 in seven weeks compares with 41 deaths on Scottish mountains

last year and 30 in 1990. There were 315 rescues carried out last year, compared with 191 in 1990.

Al Ingram, honorary secretary of the Mountain Rescue Committee of Scotland, says that several factors have conspired to make this winter one of the worst for accidents. "The increase in Munro bagging — climbing mountains



MacInnes: huge strain on rescue teams

higher than 3,000 feet — as an activity means that people are not gaining experience slowly," he says. "In the past people starting off would climb for a couple of hours in gentle conditions and gradually build up experience. They forget that the real goal is getting back down safely."

In addition inexperienced climbers often underestimate the Scottish weather. "It can be like the Arctic on Ben Nevis in the winter," Craig Lindsay, of the RAF rescue service, said. According to Mr MacInnes the most important thing a climber can do is leave a note of his route and when he intends to return.



Hiding her light: Norma Major, who has been criticised for her fashion choice, lets young models steal the attention at Birmingham NEC yesterday. She was visiting the Premier Collections fashion trade show

£300m investment 'prevented flood disaster'

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

EXPERTS were examining the damage to East Anglian sea defences yesterday after some of the worst flooding since the 1953 disaster in which more than 300 died.

But as mopping up began for more than 600 people who had to leave their homes, the National Rivers Authority (NRA) said its £300 million investment programme in defences over the past ten years had prevented a major emergency.

The cost of the latest flood damage along the east coast has been estimated by officials at up to £2 million.

"If it were not for the investment of the past decade we are sure there would have been a major tragedy," Helen Leversedge, NRA spokeswoman, said. "We are quite relieved that our defences have been well tested."

Multimillion-pound defence schemes at King's Lynn, Norfolk, between Happisburgh and Winterton on the Norfolk coast, between Skegness and

Mablethorpe on the Lincolnshire coast and at Aldeburgh, Suffolk, prevented serious flooding. Meanwhile a £12 million barrier on the river Colne to protect Colchester and nearby Essex villages will be in place by the end of the year.

Flood levels on the Norfolk and Suffolk coast during the weekend were only a metre lower than in 1953. The flooding was caused by a tidal surge whipped up by winds of up to 60mph in what the NRA described as a once-a-decade high.

Poor use smoking as a crutch

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE anti-smoking message is failing to change the habits of working-class women, who are twice as likely to smoke as professional women. Changes in strategy to reach this group are urged in a report published yesterday by Action on Smoking and Health and the Cancer Research Campaign.

In Britain 36 per cent of women in unskilled manual households smoke, against 16 per cent in professional households. Among widowed, divorced or separated women, the figure is 50 per cent.

Professor Hilary Graham of Warwick University, one of the authors of the report, said women in difficult circumstances were aware of the health risks and the prohibitive cost of their habit, but clung to it as a crutch.

Schoolboy 'hacked into EC computer'

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SCHOOLBOY armed with a £200 computer hacked into computers at the European Community's offices in Luxembourg, the *Financial Times* in London and universities around the world.

Paul Bedworth became so proficient that he changed passwords on some systems, locking out legitimate users. Southwark Crown Court, south London, was told yesterday.

Mr Bedworth, now 19, began hacking when he was 14 using a BBC Microcomputer given to him as a Christmas present. It is a basic machine found in most schools. By the time he was 17 he was calling himself Olicana, the Roman name for his home town, Ilkley in West Yorkshire, and could access any system, the court was told.

Mr Bedworth, who is studying artificial intelligence at Edinburgh University, was charged under the Computer

Misuse Act 1990 with Karl Strickland, 22, and Neil Woods, 26. James Richardson, for the prosecution, said: "None of these lads knew each other. They struck up an electronic relationship but were causing a nuisance on a phenomenal scale."

Strickland, a computer programmer, of Liverpool, and Woods, of Oldham, admitted conspiring to dishonestly obtain information contrary to the Telecommunications Act and conspiring in the unauthorised modification of computer material. Woods also admitted criminal damage to a computer.

Mr Bedworth denies conspiracy to dishonestly obtain telecommunication services, conspiring to the unauthorised modification of computer material. Strickland and Woods will be sentenced at a later date. The trial resumes today.

Ex-soldier strangled girl who jilted him

By A STAFF REPORTER

A FORMER soldier, described as an arrogant charmer with an obsessively jealous nature, was sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday for the manslaughter of a former girlfriend he had subjected to a two month terror campaign.

The Central Criminal Court heard that Keith Burgess, 32, strangled Lesley Bennett, a travel agent, aged 24, tied up her body and fled to France, where he was arrested on board a millionaire's yacht. Judge Kenneth Richardson, QC, told Burgess: "She was a bright, friendly, academically able girl in a good job. She had her whole life before her. But you snuffed it out in an attack of some ferocity. You were unable to accept the rejection and the fact that you could not dominate her. You became pathologically jealous."

Burgess, a pizza shop manager, of Edgware, west London, pleaded guilty to manslaughter. Nigel Sweeney, for the prosecution, said his not guilty plea to murder was acceptable because psychiatrists agreed he was suffering from a severe paranoid personality disorder.

But the doctors disagreed as to whether his condition was treatable or not. Dr Paul Bowden, a Home Office psychiatrist, told the court that Burgess could be a sadist who found the physical suffering and humiliation of women sexually exciting.

Burgess stood to attention in the dock with his head bowed as the judge referred to psychiatric reports which described him as excessively domineering and determined to seek "supremacy" over women.

Reports showed that five women who got to know Burgess well had all complained about his obsessive behaviour. In July 1988, at Exeter Crown Court he was jailed for a year for kidnapping one of his former girlfriends.

Ms Bennett had a ten-month affair with Burgess after meeting him at a travel company seminar in London. Mr Sweeney said it was quite clear the relationship was a turbulent one, but Ms Bennett "had a mind of her own".

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January 1, 1994. To the Director, The Citizen's Charter

Following various incidents arising from the purchase of a railway ticket to East Grinstead, I wish to complain in the strongest possible terms about the implementation of the citizen's charter. Please advise.

January 3, 1994. From the Director, The Citizen's Charter

Dear Sir or Madam, Any complaints about the implementation of the citizen's charter are met by an independent body, set up by the government for the aforesaid purpose.

Complaints should thus be sent direct to the Supervisory Officer, The Charter for the Citizen's Charter.

February 19, 1994. To the Supervisory Officer, The Charter for the Citizen's Charter

Dear Sir, Following repeated stonewalling from your department, I wish to pursue a complaint against the latter. Please direct me as to whom the aforementioned complaint should be circulated.

Feb 23, 1994. From the Supervisory Officer, The Charter for the Citizen's Charter

Dear Sir, Pursuant to your letter of the 19th inst. All complaints re. the maintenance of the Charter for the Citizen's Charter should be sent to the independent body specially instituted by the government for that purpose, ie. The Citizen's Charter for the Charter, whose members abide by the rules operated by its supervisory body, The Charter for the Citizen's Charter. All complaints against the operation of the latter institute come under the recent regulations laid out in the government's citizen's charter. If you have any further complaints, please write to the Director, The Citizen's Charter.

Young criminals are given second chance in learning to live

By RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S two youth treatment centres provide care, education and medical treatment for the most serious juvenile criminals at a weekly cost of £2,700 per person.

Young criminals convicted of murder, manslaughter, rape and arson are held with disturbed children at St Charles centre in Brentwood, Essex, and at Glenhorne in Birmingham. They are a national resource to deal with the country's most difficult and disturbed young people.

Up to 80 per cent of the 70 places at the two centres are for boys and girls aged between ten and 17, convicted of serious offences. The rest are reserved for children under local authority care orders.

Surrounded by a perimeter fence but lacking the forbidding security of prisons, the St Charles centre provides each resident with their own room. The windows have no bars but are made of unbreakable glass.

The security means we have a very limited environment. Convicted people are not allowed to leave the centre, even under supervision, during the early part of their sentence," said Tony Mackin, director of operations for both centres, which are 90 per cent full at any time.

Once at St Charles, a convicted juvenile would be assessed for three months by educationists, clinical psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and the centre's care staff.

The person's criminal behaviour may not be the first problem to be addressed once the medical team have drawn up an individual care plan. "A very young person has care needs and educational needs. They are going to have per-

sonal development needs, social and recreational needs, and then they need to address their offending behaviour."

Mr Mackin said it was important to settle them in before beginning therapeutic activities to tackle their problems. "The odds are that young people coming here are going to be very, very distressed and disorientated by being removed from a family environment, locked up and moved to a new place."

He said the centre believed it was worth investing money and time in children who still had a chance to grow and change. "We must remember that, whatever they have done, they are not adults with adult sensibilities but children who in most cases are a long way off behaviour that is normal."

Children under the age of 16 follow the national curriculum and are taught for up to five hours each weekday at St Charles by teachers employed by the centre. Older residents can study for A levels or undertake training. There are a gym and football facilities at St Charles and Glenhorne has a swimming pool.

The centre employs its own psychologist but relies on clinical psychiatrists from outside. It has three care staff looking after every ten residents.

The day at St Charles begins at 7.30am and ends at 9pm when children are locked into their rooms. They are expected to help with cleaning and washing up while the older ones can help cook the meals. In the evenings they are allowed to watch television, play board

games and read. St Charles provides children with intensive programmes to deal with offending behaviour, which take place individually and in groups. The approach often involves going back to early childhood experiences to help them identify what brought them to crime.

It involves confronting the residents with the reality of their crime and its implications for their victims, themselves, families and society. They look at the rules of society, the gains and losses of crime, the influence of others and the temptations to transgress.

Mr Mackin said: "It can be very difficult, but in most cases a young person who ends up in a secure unit with a long sentence will understand at some level that they have got major problems." At the beginning, however, they often refuse to face up to the past.

Mr Mackin said that while it was important to recognise the appalling crimes committed by some residents, society must remember that they were children. "It is crucial to get young persons to understand that what they have done is completely unacceptable, to get them to understand how they got into that situation and what they must do to change."

Little research has been undertaken to show whether such a costly regime works, but as Mr Mackin said: "It is certainly a more stable pattern of life and a better environment than many youngsters have experienced previously."

First court appearance for alleged killers of James Bulger



Courtroom scene: the three magistrates, led by Jim Dixon, hear submissions during the six-minute hearing at South Sefton youth court

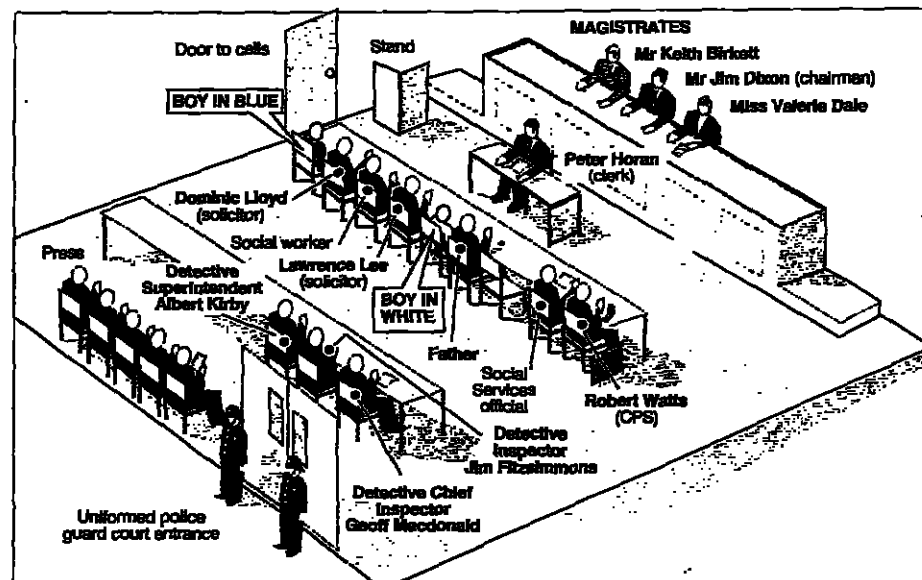
Boys remanded in care of council

By RONALD FAUX

TWO ten-year-old boys accused of abducting and murdering James Bulger and attempting to abduct another child were in the secure custody of Sefton borough council yesterday after their brief appearance at a youth court in Merseyside. The calm of the six-minute hearing contrasted strongly with the anger of the 300 people outside.

The two boys, from Liverpool, arrived at dawn, more than three hours before the crowd began to assemble outside and the hearing was due to begin. A police van took them to a separate rear entrance to the building which led to a secure juvenile detention centre on the ground floor.

At 10.06 am they were escorted up a flight of steps into South Sefton youth court, a room of light-wood panels,



soft colours and refectory-style tables designed not to intimidate children. The magistrates, Jim Dixon, chairman, Valerie Dale and Keith Birrell, had two options open to them because of the nature of the crime: they could grant bail or they could place the boys in local authority secure accommodation.

Yesterday the boys sat in a row with lawyers, social workers, guardians and the police prosecutor. One wore a white pullover with ribbed sleeves and grey corduroy trousers, the other a hooded blue and red tracksuit. Each had a solicitor representing him and one boy sat next to his father.

Reporting restrictions were not lifted and press representation was limited to four journalists and an artist, sitting at the rear of the court

behind three police officers involved in the six-day hunt for the boys who abducted James' 2, from the Strand shopping centre in Bootle. They were Det Supt Albert Kirby, who led the investigation, Det Insp Jim Fitzsimmons and Det Chief Insp Geoff MacDonald. The boys sat quietly during

the hearing. The boy in a white pullover, sitting next to his father, kept looking at the other boy, who listened intently to Robert Watts, for the prosecution. The charges were not put to the court. One boy said his name and age while the other gave his name and confirmed his age. Laurence Lee and

Angry crowd, page 1

Blair calls for more lock-up council homes to be built

By OUR HOME CORRESPONDENT

TONY Blair, the shadow home secretary, yesterday called on the government to build more local authority secure accommodation to hold persistent offenders as Labour attempted to seize the initiative on law and order from the Tories.

As Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, held urgent talks with officials at the Home Office over plans to deal with a hard-core of young offenders, Labour demanded more co-ordination of efforts to deal with criminal behaviour.

But Mr Blair opposed ministerial intentions to give courts powers to send persistent offenders aged 12 to 15 to units similar to approved schools, where they would be given discipline, education and treatment for offending behaviour.

Although there is growing cross-party consensus at Westminster on the need to tackle juvenile offenders, there is no

agreed prescription on what must be done. Senior politicians in both main parties believe that the extent of the problem is underestimated in statistics and are under pressure from constituents and the police to act.

Outlining Labour's plans, Mr Blair said the patchy spread of local authority secure accommodation should be expanded from 292 places. He accused the government of promising in 1991 to provide an additional 65 places, at a capital cost of £200,000 per place, but failing so far to provide one extra place.

Mr Blair said that some youngsters were out of control, with a small number of young people in each community indulging in grossly anti-social behaviour. "We need to tackle this problem in a concerted way: tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime," he said.

While the government plans to give the courts new powers

to deal with persistent offenders, Labour yesterday stressed the need for more co-ordination among all agencies to prevent youngsters starting a life of criminal behaviour.

It called for much more efforts to combat the social factors that have been identified as leading some youngsters to be more likely to offend. The opposition called for more efforts to tackle truancy and drug abuse, more employment and training opportunities and expanded youth facilities, including more outdoor pursuit centres and sports facilities. There should be greater targeting on individuals, including support for a child's parents.

Labour said that cautioning should not be used as an excuse for refusing to prosecute. The Crown Prosecution Service should be obliged to tell victims of crime when they were dropping or lowering charges so that the victims could offer their views.

Politicians seek elusive answer to crime

Beware politicians who come bearing a consensus, especially when the consensus concerns crime. You can be sure that it is driven at least as much by the feeling that there are votes in it as by a belief that they know what to do.

No politician is immune, as witness the latest pronouncements by Tony Blair and Kenneth Clarke about cracking down on young criminals.

Mr Blair, the shadow home secretary, is a humane man. But he wants to slough off Labour's reputation as the party that saw crime as something that got up by the fascist police, busy repressing the working class. As research shows, and Mr Blair knows, council tenants suffer worst from crime.

Will his suggestions do the job? He wants to catch offenders young and get them to make reparation, perhaps directly to the victim. For persistent offenders between ten and 15 years, he wants more places in "local authority secure accommodation".

Penal proposals go in cycles. It was a seventies fashion to pin hope on these places.

But three quarters of the young people were re-convicted within a year of discharge, often after multiple crimes. This accommodation was "an expensive ante-room to the penal system".

The home secretary is going one step further — or back. Mr Clarke is also a humane man. But his proposal for a new kind of special custodial unit for offenders under 16 follows in a long line of failed institutions.

Raphael Samuel, the social historian, once interviewed Arthur Harding, a retired East End villain who was in Wormwood Scrubs when the first borstal was opened in the early years of the century. Harding was transferred. Borstal, he remembered, made him "fitter, stronger, taller" and "something of a hero". On his release, he set up a Fagin-esque pickpocketing team. Borstals were explicitly modelled on public schools. They failed. Their successors, called "approved schools", took a more second-ary-modern approach. They

did no better. More than two thirds of their inmates were re-convicted within five years.

Perhaps the closest comparison, however, is with the "short, sharp shock" Lord Whitelaw introduced as home secretary in 1981. Young people aged 14 to 21 were to be given something like army glasshouse discipline. The scheme was quietly dropped five years later. It made no difference to the re-conviction rates.

The courts also turned out to be reluctant to sentence young men to this punishment. Much effort, most recently, in the Criminal Justice Act, 1991, has gone into persuading the courts to be less custody-minded. We already hand out far stiffer sentences than most European countries. It does not dent our crime rate.

Some people do need to be locked up. No one denies that. Even for children, the means are already there. The health department looked after Mary Bell, who at the age of

11 killed two young boys in 1968. She was eventually released under supervision and now, under a new name, has two children of her own. There are two secure units which use every known psychological technique to try to woo the child away from hatred and evil. It is, in effect, a life sentence.

The deep causes of crime remain a mystery. Crime has something to do with poverty, but not everything. Cities seem to have a sociological memory. The districts of London which produced crime a hundred years ago tend to produce crime now. Lisbon and Naples are both crushingly poor but only one is a capital of crime.

The only cure for crime, for most criminals, is growing older. The nut we have to crack is this: how can we ensure they grow older while causing as little damage to the rest of us as possible, and drawing the fewest other young people into crime?

Neither Mr Blair nor Mr Clarke has the answer. Nor, in all honesty, has anyone else.

PAUL BARKER

MPs decry sentencing powers

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR MPs yesterday joined in the criticism from judges and magistrates over inadequate sentencing powers to deal with persistent offenders, including juveniles.

Less than three months after the Criminal Justice Act 1991 came into force, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, faces renewed pressure to clarify the sentencing powers of courts.

Sir John Wheeler MP, former chairman of the home affairs committee, yesterday publicly criticised the act, which magistrates and judges say prevents them from taking into account an offender's previous convictions.

Lord Taylor predicted in September that judges and the public would have misgivings about the courts' lack of power to deal with persistent offenders and about a regime that "minimised" an offender's previous record and number of offences committed.

Just before Christmas he issued some guidance on how it should be interpreted by courts. But further guidance now looks necessary.

The Magistrates' Association said that as a result of concern on the bench over new sentencing provisions, it was setting up a working party to look at how the act could be improved.

Joyce Rose, the association's chairman, said: "We support the principles of the act, that custody should be reserved for the most serious offenders. But our concern is that we cannot take into account an offender's previous offences — a point we did express when the bill was going through Parliament."

Although JPs could look at the circumstances of previous offences when sentencing, it was hard to obtain such information, she added.

One magistrate, Ann Peat in Sheffield, has already resigned over the new sentencing provisions.

Law, pages 33, 35

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Rebuilding young lives shattered by neglect

By KATE ALDERSON

EUROPE'S leading treatment centre for juvenile offenders, some as young as ten, is set in a leafy green estate in co. Durham. Aycliffe Centre for Children houses 120 youngsters who have committed serious crimes, including murder, rape and arson.

They live in 11 houses and are supervised by staff who outnumber them three to one. Aged 10 to 18, often rejected by other care facilities as too difficult, they arrive with a conviction, a history of physical or emotional abuse and a resentment of adults.

The centre gives them treatment, counselling, schooling, pocket money and, the staff hope, the mentality not to reoffend.

Dr Masud Houghugh, the centre's director, knows that the crimes make it easy to forget how young the children are. But he insists that they are always treated as damaged and disturbed children, not as criminals.

The bedrooms are those of children: full of records, football posters, make-up and soft toys. Children go to the site's school every day, eat together in their houses and spend evenings in treatment sessions, watching videos, playing musical instruments or in the gym. There are occasional outings, organised sport and visits from families.

The atmosphere is relaxed: children turn to the staff for cuddles, advice, discipline and sometimes take out their aggression on them. This, Dr Houghugh says, is part of the

parenting role and essential to treatment.

Many children in Aycliffe say they are relieved to be "taken seriously" after years of being ignored and abused. Treatment can be traumatic but children are often happy to confront their offence for the first time.

At first many reject the treatment and deny their crimes but after about three months even the most difficult begin to acknowledge the seriousness of their offence. Andrew Muckley, a psychologist at the centre, said: "We are not just a storage warehouse for criminal children, but explicitly assess their treatment needs. We take the children apart and then reassemble them."

Mr Muckley and Dr Houghugh believe the government's proposal to intern more 11 to 15-year-old persistent offenders misses the point. "The only time children are taken seriously is if they have been murdered or are murderers. We have the resources and the intelligence to offer treatment to these children, despite the government saying we do not," Dr Houghugh said.

"In 1978, drawing on the behaviour of the children I see here, I warned that their pattern of behaviour would get worse and crime would increase. Six months ago I made that same warning and the health minister Brian Mawhinney told me I was being apocalyptic, but I believe we haven't seen anything yet."

هكذا من الأصل

Party door marked 'Exit for unions' now stands slightly ajar

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

SHORTLY after the 1959 general election, in which Labour had lost its third election in a row, Hugh Gaitskell called for a revision of its constitution "written over 40 years ago". Clause 4, committing Labour to common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange, implied "that the only precise objective we have is nationalisation... that we propose to nationalise everything". His words gave rise to an internal

controversy that ended a year later with Gaitskell defeated and clause 4 unamended. His only consolation was the acceptance by the conference of a statement that "both public and private enterprise have a place in the economy". Labour's first acceptance of a mixed economy. Now, after four consecutive election defeats, the clause 4 debate has reopened. Roy Hattersley today asks Labour formally to renounce the notion that socialism is synonymous with public ownership. On the eve of the

crucial national executive meeting that will discuss Labour's future links with the trade unions, Mr Hattersley effectively calls for the umbilical cord that has tied the movement's two bodies together since Labour's formation in 1900 to be severed. Labour should be made up of individual members: there can be no tacit trade union veto on free thought, he argues. The unions might become associate members, but it is not a relationship they are likely to accept. They will pay the bills only while they dominate the

policy decisions and that, Mr Hattersley says, they must not be allowed to do. Gaitskell was up against a brick wall in 1959; Mr Hattersley is pushing at a door that might be slightly ajar. John Smith has given the firm impression that he does not intend to follow up his Birmingham speech declaring as irrelevant the debate about the ownership of industry with a change to the constitution that formally kills off the old shibboleth. But there were indications yesterday that his mind may not be closed on the issue. Sources close to the Labour leader accepted that the argument about clause 4 will not go away: the question for Labour might be what to put in its place, it was said. While Mr Smith is unlikely to act this year, he may well choose his own time if he sees a consensus emerging around a substitute.

Mr Smith will not go as far as Mr Hattersley would like on the union link. All the options contained in the review group report to be considered tomorrow envisage the unions retaining some 50 per cent of the vote at party conferences for the foreseeable future. Mr Hattersley wants a return to the system under which party leaders were elected by Labour MPs alone, and Mr Smith will tomorrow make plain that he backs the idea of ending the union vote there. Symbolically, the most important area to be discussed tomorrow is the role or otherwise of the unions in parliamentary selections. Mr Kinnock, Mr Hattersley and others are pressing for the

adoption of a straight one member-one vote system that would see the formal role of the unions dropped. Union leaders and some politicians want the link to be maintained by allowing trade unionists who pay the political levy to Labour to have a vote as "registered supporters". Mr Hattersley, freed from the burden of assembling votes, would be the first to recognise that Mr Smith can push through only those changes which the unions, who still wield 70 per cent of votes at conferences, will go along with.

Hattersley says new constitution is way forward for Labour

Roy Hattersley sets out what he believes are the main points requiring change in Labour's basic document

SEVENTY-five years ago this week, Labour published the constitution that was meant to turn the party away from protest and towards power. Its key clauses, unchanged for three quarters of a century, have exercised immense influence over Labour's character and reputation. The party needs a new constitution to set it on course towards the 21st century.

Clause 1: The name of the party shall be the Labour party. It is not an ideal name, for it evokes a lost age of shipbuilding, means tests and national plans. But it also celebrates historic victories — Beveridge, the health service, freedom for India. Political parties, like infantry regiments, need battle honours to lift their morale. Most of the theoretical alternatives are associated with parties that do not share Labour's aims. Certainly we could not be called the Social Democrats. That is a name for a centre party. Labour will not succeed, and may not even survive, unless it remains unequivocally on the left. The new constitution must begin with a simple statement of socialist principle.

Clause 2: The aim of the party is the creation — by all democratic means at its disposal — of a truly free society in which opportunities, now limited to a minority, become available to the whole population. General declarations of principle are always vague to the point of vacuity. The United States' Supreme Court has spent 200 years interpreting "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness". A new constitution cannot repeat the promise "to give effect" to policies "approved from time to time by party conference". That is no more than Herbert Morrison's assertion that "socialism is what Labour happens to be doing at any one time". Labour needs a sharp ideological cutting edge.

Clause 2a: Since the creation of a free society is dependent on the redistribution of power and wealth, the party shall pursue policies that promote greater equality. Liberty is not the right to hope for the impossible. It is the practical opportunity to make the choices that democracy provides. Those opportunities depend on "agency" — the practical ability to do those things that we choose to do. The average family is not liberated by the right to buy private health and medicine, as long as it can afford it. For a majority of the population, freedom is the ability to send children to a good local school and the certainty of free health care when needed.

We delude ourselves if we pretend that "agency" — a wider range of choice — will be increased throughout the community by growth alone. The trickle-down effect has not worked for pensioners or the young unemployed who sleep in shop doorways. These problems will be solved only by redistribution. Party leaders have to write their speeches in the emotive language of "fairness" and "justice". The party constitution must be more precise. Labour is the party of equality. The new constitution should make that clear.

Clause 2b: The protection of individual liberty, and its extension through an active policy of redistribution, shall, when the Labour party is in office, be the principal duty of government and its agencies. Governments cannot be neutral. Their duty is to intervene when liberties collide. Sooner or later they have to choose between hikers who want to walk the moors and landowners who want to close the footpaths. Socialist governments must exercise their power on behalf of the disadvantaged and the dispossessed, as it was exercised on behalf of rack-rented tenant farmers by Gladstone's Irish Land Act. Opponents will claim that clause 2b provides constitutional authority for an army of commissars to decide the price of bread, the design of clothes and the pattern of bedsprings, and then require us all to eat, dress and sleep in the way that they dictate. As a joyous reaffirmation of the truth, Labour ought to print a passage from R.H. Tawney on every membership card. "Socialism is the utmost possible development of every human being and the deliberate organisation of society for the attainment of that objective."

It should occupy the space in which clause 4 part 4 now appears. Clause 2 of the new constitution, asserting as it does the primacy of people over property, is far more radical than the present clause

'Labour must become a party of ideas, not of vested interests'

Clause 3: The party shall be made up of individuals who are (i) citizens of the United Kingdom, (ii) citizens of Eire or the Commonwealth resident in the United Kingdom, and (iii) other persons who have lived in the United Kingdom for five years. The clause ends there. By acknowledging the existence of Labour supporters in Northern Ireland, it ends the absurd implication that the party's ideology is applicable only on one side of St George's Channel. It also marks the end of the block vote. The case against the block vote has become irresistible with the emergence of super-unions which, although representing thousands of Conservative supporters, cast more votes at the Labour conference than all the constituency parties combined. The unions could maintain their connections with Labour by becoming some sort of associate members. But it is not a relationship that they are likely to accept. Not unreasonably, they will pay Labour's bills only while they dominate the party's policy decisions — and that they must not be allowed to do. Labour must become a party of ideas, not of vested interests. That status is not compatible with a tacit trade union veto on free thought. A party made up of individual members has no difficult decisions to make about selection of candidates and re-selection of sitting MPs. It does, however, have to decide how to choose a leader.

Clause 4: The leader of the party shall be elected by ballot of Labour MPs: a) at the beginning of each parliamentary session when the party is in opposition; b) at the beginning of each Parliament when

in a free market that is regulated as necessary in the public interest. A thriving private sector is essential to economic expansion. Labour need feel no embarrassment about acknowledging the failure of command economies in which prices and production are determined by a central bureaucracy. That is nothing to do with socialism. Socialists have always argued about where the boundary between private and public enterprise should lie and how the private sector should be regulated. But not for 50 years has an influential voice within the party called for an end to private property or the suppression of the market economy. The new constitution should set out what Labour really believes. The party's real aim, greater equality, will be promoted by the growth that a mixed economy can provide. Highly-paid workers who gladly contribute part of each salary increase to financing public services are often bitterly opposed to paying extra taxes out of static or falling incomes. A sensible mixture of private ownership and public enterprise is the prescription for an expanding economy. An expanding economy eases the path towards a more equal society.

Clause 4: The party shall be made up of individuals who are (i) citizens of the United Kingdom, (ii) citizens of Eire or the Commonwealth resident in the United Kingdom, and (iii) other persons who have lived in the United Kingdom for five years. The clause ends there. By acknowledging the existence of Labour supporters in Northern Ireland, it ends the absurd implication that the party's ideology is applicable only on one side of St George's Channel. It also marks the end of the block vote. The case against the block vote has become irresistible with the emergence of super-unions which, although representing thousands of Conservative supporters, cast more votes at the Labour conference than all the constituency parties combined. The unions could maintain their connections with Labour by becoming some sort of associate members. But it is not a relationship that they are likely to accept. Not unreasonably, they will pay Labour's bills only while they dominate the party's policy decisions — and that they must not be allowed to do. Labour must become a party of ideas, not of vested interests. That status is not compatible with a tacit trade union veto on free thought. A party made up of individual members has no difficult decisions to make about selection of candidates and re-selection of sitting MPs. It does, however, have to decide how to choose a leader.

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New direction: Hattersley wants modernisation to make Labour more radical

Block vote to go but strong role at conference stays

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

TRADE unions are to retain a substantial influence on voting at Labour party conferences after the lengthy review into links between the party and the union movement, but the block vote in its traditional form is to go, it emerged last night.

All the options included in the report to be considered by Labour's national executive tomorrow, and obtained by *The Times* envisage a continuing strong role at the annual conference for the unions, although they accept that in the long term it should be reduced to a point where the unions should no longer hold a majority of the vote.

The report, far less radical than many in the shadow cabinet would have wished, gives a strong defence of Labour's historic ties with the union movement, saying that it should be a cause of celebration rather than concern.

However, under the options likely to be adopted after a period of internal consultation, the unions are likely to lose their role in the election of Labour leaders and could lose their influence on the selection of parliamentary candidates. The key could be the position adopted by John Smith tomorrow.

The review group was divided. It decided against making formal recommendations and listed a series of options for the party to choose.

MP selections. Option A: one-member one-vote. Only full members of the party would be able to vote and trade unions would be excluded. Option B: trade unionists who pay the political levy to Labour could vote as "registered supporters". Option C: known as "levy plus", this would allow trade unionists to vote if they topped up their political levy to pay the full membership rate. Option D: a return to an electoral college with party members and members of union branches

casting votes on a one-member one-vote principle. **Leadership.** Option A: the leader is elected by MPs and party members, each getting 50 per cent of the vote. Option B: a return to the electoral college with MPs, unions and members each getting a third of the vote. Option C: the same as B but only trade unionists who are full members would be allowed to vote.

Party conference. The present 70-30 per cent union-party membership balance should be maintained for a time. However, the union vote should in principle be reduced to under 50 per cent by these methods. Option A: increasing the membership voting proportion as membership itself increases (for example a 1 percentage point change for 10,000 extra members). Option B: a phased programme to reach parity between the unions and members provided the new national policy forum proves a success and the "stabilising role" of the unions is reduced. Option C: giving MPs a 20 per cent share of the vote, party members 30 per cent and the unions 50 per cent.

It is agreed that in future the union vote at conference should be cast in percentage terms and no longer in the form of millions of members.

The report concludes "that there should in principle be a move from the 70 per cent figure to a figure where trade unions do not on their own hold a majority of the vote, but that such movement should be dependent on other changes within the party which would 'trigger' a change. This recognises the realistic and stabilising role trade unions bring to the party, and the need to make changes gradually."

The trade unions have had between 80 and 90 per cent of the votes at conference. In 1990 it was agreed to reduce the block vote to 70 per cent.

How Webb bequeathed controversial clause

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

OPPONENTS of plans to break Labour's links with the trade unions say that it would be a betrayal of the party's past. The constitution that has survived for 75 years and which Roy Hattersley today says should be dismantled was

drawn up in 1918. The intellectual guru Sidney Webb produced the famous clause 4 entitled "Party Objects". Sub-clause 4 was the one that has always tagged Labour as the party of public ownership. It suggested that Labour's aim was: "To secure for the producers by hand and brain the full fruits of their industry, and the most equitable distribution thereof that may

be possible, upon the basis of the common ownership of the means of production and the best obtainable system of popular administration and control of each industry and service." The words, but not the meaning, were slightly amended a few years later. But it was not until 1959 that Gaitskell tried, and failed, to win a thorough revision. The argument is again raging.

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Newbury MP's death lands Conservatives with a by-election predicament

The sudden death of Judith Chaplin has given Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative party chairman, the predicament he least wanted. Not only has the Tory party lost one of its promising new MPs, widely mourned at Westminster yesterday, but the Tories will have to do very well to retain her seat at Newbury in Berkshire.

The pointers are almost entirely negative. The Conservatives have a bad by-election record. The last seat they successfully defended was Richmond in Yorkshire four years ago, and that was only because of a split in the Liberal Democrat and independent SDP vote. Since then, the Tories have lost seven contests in a row, several in seats

with majorities much larger than Newbury.

The previous assumption that a party defending a seat after the sudden death of the previous MP, rather than a voluntary resignation, wins a sympathy vote no longer applies. Six of the seven defeats between 1989 and 1992 were in seats where the former MP had died.

The Liberal Democrats are also strongly placed. Newbury has been one of their target seats for more than 20 years and they came close in the two 1974 elections. The party even prepared for a by-

election in the early 1980s when Sir Michael McNair-Wilson was very ill. But Sir Michael fully recovered and increased his vote in the 1980s before retiring last year. He may have been helped by a local reaction against the Greenham Common protests.

Liberal Democrat fortunes have revived in the 1990s. In the district elections in 1991 they won nearly 52 per cent of the vote and dominate the local council. The Tories trailed with just 40 per cent and Labour won less than 6 per cent.

Local success by the Liberal Democrats does not often translate into parliamentary victory, and Mrs Chaplin duly won last April

with nearly 56 per cent of the vote. But David Rendell, standing for the Liberal Democrats for the second time, took 37 per cent after a swing of nearly 5 per cent in his favour, against the national trend.

However, local election successes often assist in parliamentary elections. The contest will start with the Liberal Democrats as the main challenger and Labour an also ran. The Conservatives may even try to turn their underdog standing to advantage.

So what can Sir Norman Fowler do? He will want to avoid some of the recent weak by-election candidates though, unlike the Liberal Democrats or Labour, he has little influence over local selections. The Tories' dismal by-election record

may deter some former MPs, such as the ex-ministers Francis Maude and John Maples, from putting forward.

To minimise party splits, Sir Norman will want to ensure that any candidate loyally supports the Maastricht treaty and opposes a referendum. The possibility of a renegade Tory or independent anti-Maastricht candidate is quite strong.

The Conservative leadership can decide the timing. By convention, a by-election should be within three months of a vacancy. The Tories may be tempted to hold this by-election on May 6, when voters in Newbury, as in much of England, will be electing county

councillors. The Tory calculation could be that Liberal Democrat activists, busy on local contests, will be less able to concentrate resources on Newbury. The impact of a by-election defeat might also be less if it coincided with likely losses in the county elections.

The main consolation for the Tories is that, in the long run, parliamentary by-elections do not matter. They neither influence the conduct of later general election campaigns nor do they accurately predict the eventual result, either nationally or locally.

Last April, the Tories won back all seven seats they had previously lost. The four, out of seven, losing by-election candidates who were subsequently re-elected by local

parties are now MPs. However, in the short term by-elections do have a big impact on the morale of MPs, especially those unnecessarily nervous about holding their seats, and on the general mood at Westminster.

The Tory by-election defeats in 1991 at Monmouth and Ribbles Valley affected later government decisions on, respectively, health service spending and the abolition of the poll tax. The arithmetic is also different in the current parliament. Losing Newbury would cut the Conservative Commons majority from 21 to 19. History suggests there will be other tricky by-elections before long.

PETER RIDDELL

Labour wins debate on treaty U-turn

By ROBERT MORGAN, POLITICAL STAFF

MPs AND ministers were caught off guard last night when Labour succeeded in pressing for a Commons debate on the announcement last week that a defeat on the social chapter would not prevent ratification of the Maastricht treaty.

Instead of continuing with debates on the bill to allow the treaty to be ratified, MPs were given a chance to consider the foreign secretary's statement last week that a vote for the social chapter would not wreck the treaty and that legal advice given to the House of Commons in January had been incorrect.

Michael Morris, the deputy Speaker, who chairs the committee, agreed to allow a Labour request for debate on "a dilatory motion" that the committee should adjourn. Under this procedure, MPs could concentrate attention on Douglas Hurd's words of last Monday. He then told MPs that the Foreign Office minister, had given wrong advice to the House when he said on January 20 that if MPs carried the amendment on the social chapter, amendment 27, it would wreck the treaty.

Asked yesterday whether the Attorney-General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, had been informed of his decision, Mr Morris told the astonished House: "No one knew of my reply." (to

Labour's request for a dilatory motion).

George Robertson, Labour's EC spokesman, who had persuaded Mr Morris to allow the debate, said that he did not know when Mr Garel-Jones had been "taken aside by his boss" over the matter. "One can only imagine how stunned he must have been to hear from the foreign secretary that everything he had said was wrong."

He said that what had happened was the material for a novel — unbelievable although the characters might be — and there was no better man to write it than the foreign secretary himself.

It was clear, Mr Robertson said, that faced with defeat over the social chapter, ministers had sought a new legal opinion. The government, he added, brought to mind the old Glasgow saying: "One sandwich short of a picnic."

As Peter Riddell had written in *The Times* last week, it appeared "like a spiv businessman with his sharp lawyer." Dennis Skinner, the Labour MP for Bolton, said that the statement by Mr Garel-Jones on January 20 was all part and parcel of a government imbued with arrogance and contempt not only for the British people, but the House of Commons as well. Ministers had not realised that the Labour party would vote solid-

ly for the social chapter and the Liberal Democrats would as well, and they thought the Tory rebels "did not have the guts" to go into the lobby for the social chapter.

Mr Robertson agreed, saying the government had thought that a minister could say one thing one week and another minister say precisely the opposite the next week.

The fact was that, faced with the prospect of defeat, the government changed the status of the social chapter protocol. The key question, he said, was: Why has the House of Commons not got a copy of the Attorney-General's legal opinion? It had been made available to ministers. Sir Nicholas was a member of the government and he should offer advice to the House since this was a matter concerning the House and its authority.

Donald Anderson, Labour MP for Swansea, quoted Lloyd George as saying: "Count not that their legal opinion is fine, they mean them as they meant them at the time."

William Cash, the Conservative MP for Stafford and a leading opponent of the Maastricht treaty, likened the situation to Lewis Carroll's *Alice Through the Looking Glass*, where opinions, as he opposed to words, could be made to mean whatever one wanted them to mean.

EC 'will go ahead without Britain'

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL has warned Britain and Denmark that the European Community would go ahead with its plans for European union without them if they failed to ratify the Maastricht treaty.

He said at a press conference on his last day of a visit to India that he hoped Britain and Denmark would ratify the treaty within six months. If they did not, ten members of the Community were ready to go ahead. Herr Kohl made it clear that Germany would be among them. "I am firmly determined not to stop the process for one day," he said.

This is not the first time he has given such a warning. He recently told foreign correspondents in Bonn that European unity could not be held up by one or two individual governments. He said that Germany, more than any other country, needed closer unity for reasons of geography and history. The Maastricht treaty, Herr Kohl said, was a political opportunity that had to be seized.

The chancellor also made barbed remarks about the schadenfreude in Britain over Germany's recent economic difficulties, saying he too remembered how everyone at school was happy when the top pupil in the class got bad



Laying down the law: Helmut Kohl relaxes during his tour of India, after issuing an ultimatum on Maastricht

marks. In the long run, however, European unity was a question of peace and war.

Herr Kohl has already insisted during his visit to India that Germany does not want to see a European Community closed to the outside world. "It is crucial for Europe not to look inward and not to deal only with itself, but to open our eyes to what is happening in the rest of the world to

avoid erecting Fortress Europe," he said.

He will be pressed in his talks in Singapore today and in Indonesia, Japan and South Korea to use his weight to keep EC trading policy open and flexible towards its Asian partners.

Japan will be the stop where Herr Kohl will have his most important political discussions. Germany and Ja-

pan, two of the three largest contributors to United Nations funds, are contemplating permanent membership of the UN Security Council, though both have difficult constitutional issues to resolve before they can fully deploy their armed forces in UN peacekeeping operations.

Japan and Germany also play key financial roles in the world and in their regions, and both are under international pressure to do more to stimulate trade and take a lead in pulling the world out of recession. The chancellor is likely to have detailed talks with Japanese leaders on the agenda for the forthcoming economic summit, which this summer will be in Tokyo, following the meeting in Munich last year.

Teaching standards criticised

By BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

PRIMARY schoolchildren should use calculators and computers more in class to improve their mathematics, according to a report published yesterday.

Standards of mathematics were poor or worse in almost a quarter of primary schools, with wide variations both within and between them. Her Majesty's Inspectorate said. Few classes used available calculators or computers, despite evidence that they improved children's understanding of numbers.

The report, based on a survey of almost 2,000 pupils aged six, eight and 11, said number work was a high priority and took up about one-tenth of pupils' time. But

standards were a "very serious problem" at one school in 20 and a "major problem" at another 18 per cent.

The education department welcomed the report as an important contribution to the debate about standards in schools. Although three-quarters of lessons were satisfactory or better there were "no grounds for complacency", a spokesman said.

Inspectors found that schools taught children to add, subtract, multiply and divide using paper and pencil adequately, but said that too many did not pay sufficient attention to mental arithmetic and calculator skills. "There was evidence that using a calculator as an aid to learning en-

hanced the pupils' understanding of numbers," the report said.

The quality of work varied sharply between groups of children of different ability. While more than 90 per cent of the work of high ability 11-year-olds was judged satisfactory or better, more than half of lower ability eight-year-olds fell short.

Inspectors said this variation in pupils' achievement had more to do with the quality of teaching than other factors such as pupils' social and economic background.

The Teaching and Learning of Number in Primary Schools (Office for Standards in Education, £3.50.)

AROUND THE LOBBY

Brooke is accused over press

Peter Brooke, the national heritage secretary, was accused yesterday of having no idea how to tackle press excesses, as he parried calls in the Commons to tighten regulation of the industry.

Mr Brooke told MPs that the government would await the report of the national heritage select committee and the committee stage of Clive Soley's freedom and responsibility of the press bill before publishing its final response to the Calcutt report.

Austin Mitchell (Lab, Great Grimsby), demanded: "Why don't you admit that you don't really have an idea in your head what to do, that you are not allowed a policy by the Tory puppet-masters in the Tory press, that it is really impossible to do anything in this area without infringing freedom of the press?"

Castle cost

Restoring the fire-damaged Windsor Castle will cost an estimated £30 million to £40 million, Peter Brooke, the national heritage secretary, said in a Commons written reply.

Lottery date

The national lottery should be running by the end of next year, Robert Key, the heritage minister, said in the Commons. Funds would be available for distribution soon after it started up.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions (health, prime minister. Debate on peacekeeping. Lords (2.30): Housing and urban development bill, second reading.

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THE WALKDORF

MPs call for speedy reform

By ROBERT MORGAN, POLITICAL STAFF

TONY Newton, the Commons leader, came under renewed pressure last night to press ahead with reforms to Commons procedure so that MPs can spend more time with their families.

Backbenchers want faster progress in implementing the proposals drawn up by the committee chaired by Michael Jopling, Tory MP for Westminster and Lonsdale, that would mean shorter hours and most Fridays free.

During Commons questions yesterday, Mr Newton said that changes were best made by agreement between party business managers, and agreement had not yet been reached. One stumbling block is the recommendation that bills have an agreed timetable before their committee stages start. The Opposition is sceptical because oppositions always believe that delay is their only effective weapon. In fact, the government "guillotines" any bill facing delay.

Mr Newton said the recommendations were a package. If there were to be shorter hours, arrangements had to be made to get bills through.

Major agrees to give support to Rushdie

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major is to meet Salman Rushdie in an attempt to intensify the pressure on Iran to drop the death sentence passed on the writer four years ago.

Downing Street officials said yesterday that the prime minister would be happy to see Mr Rushdie. There were no obstacles in principle, but they had yet to arrange a suitable date. The move follows an encounter earlier this month between Mr Rushdie and Douglas Hogg, the Foreign Office minister responsible for the Middle East.

Interviewed on *BBC Breakfast* with Frost on Sunday, Mr Rushdie said he was encouraged by the government's change of tactics. Ministers had initially decided to "lie low and hope the thing would go away". They were now taking up a "much more high-profile approach" in their efforts to persuade Tehran to end the *fatwa* imposed for alleged blasphemy in his novel *The Satanic Verses*.

Mr Rushdie said on Sunday that he was looking for a public display of solidarity from Mr Major. "It is crucial to show Iran that we mean business," Downing Street said it had not yet been



Rushdie: looking for display of solidarity

decided whether Mr Major would be filmed with Mr Rushdie.

The International Rushdie Defence Committee said: "We will ask the prime minister to head an international campaign at government level to persuade the government of Iran to cancel both the *fatwa* and the bounty money."

All Akbar Nazeq-Nouri, Speaker of the Iranian parliament, said Christians should join Muslims in hunting down and killing Salman Rushdie. "Nations must not let anyone mock religious beliefs on the pretext of freedom of expression."

Disillusion among Ger

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Continent gripped by pessimism as economic decline erodes belief in the future

Recession has shaken faith in hallowed institutions

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

IF BRITAIN'S self-esteem and national morale have been dented by the annual horrors of 1992, surging unemployment and the horrible murder of a toddler, how do our neighbours feel?

A depression is setting over Europe. The malaise may have started with a recession which hit Britain first and which is now corroding confidence everywhere, and the infection has spread to politics and national self-confidence. The start of 1993 has been marked by *morosité* in France and *Angst* in Germany.

But in America and Asia the mood has been more upbeat. Most Europeans told pollsters that they were not looking forward to the year, although Britons were slightly more cheerful than the French or Germans. In America and Japan, the optimists outnumber the pessimists.

If Britain is no longer at ease with itself or with its institutions, people have only

■ Britons have a tendency to complain. They are, however, far happier with their lot than other Europeans, say the pollsters

started saying this recently. Few of the pollsters' figures for Europe, or the world as a whole, suggest a long decline of Britain's faith in itself. Judged by long-term European Commission surveys, Britons are relatively well satisfied with their lot.

The "Eurobarometer" surveys, started in 1973, ask "Are you satisfied with the life you lead?" Britons have regularly emerged for the past two decades as among Europe's most contented, scoring 85 per cent in 1973 and registering precisely the same total in the most recent poll last October. The figure has never fallen below 82 per cent.

Italians were steadily more satisfied during the 1970s and 1980s, climbing to 99 per cent in 1989 and 1991. By last autumn, however, the figure had fallen back to 73. The

Irish satisfaction index has seen violent mood swings. They entered the European Community in 1973 with a rating of 92 per cent, almost rivaling Europe's champions of self-satisfaction, the Luxembourgers, but fell to 74 per cent in 1987. By late last year Irish contentment had fallen to British levels.

France's rating has varied in the high 60 to 70 percentage points, resting at 75 last autumn. Germany, measured as West Germany until reunification in 1990, scored figures similar to Britain's. The euphoria in the run-up to reunification pushed it to 90 per cent in 1989 but even with the economic misery it brought on, 87 per cent of all Germans claimed to be satisfied late last year.

Germany's economic problems, combined with unpre-

cedented numbers of immigrants from the east, have triggered a crisis of confidence in politicians but there is little evident rancour. Polls this month in Germany found that 30 per cent of respondents believe the federal government is "incapable".

France has been undergoing a prolonged national nervous breakdown since the end of the Cold war threatened to erode France's influence in the postwar European political stage. Polls suggest wide public disillusionment with elected politicians. But the French mood, akin to Britain's current introspection, is affected by a sense of social decay.

Mistrust in the pillars of society is hardly confined to Britain. The last detailed survey across Europe dates back to early 1991, when Britons' faith in the police, civil service, legal system and parliament were markedly higher than in much of the rest of Europe. It has not fallen much even in the past few months.

(Additional reporting by Robert Worcester)



Europe sings the blues: Anthony Hills, 21, left, who has just found part-time work in a pub, and his friend Andy McCarthy, 26 and unemployed, busking in Winchester to raise money to keep themselves afloat

Polls reveal nation with little pride in being British

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY

Is Britain undergoing a crisis of national morale? According to the Gallup opinion pollsters, in a survey published yesterday in *The Daily Telegraph*, the country is suffering an unprecedented loss of national pride, with nearly half the population feeling the urge to emigrate.

Robert Worcester, chairman of the rival pollsters Mori, said yesterday that such a sweeping conclusion should be treated with caution as the survey was bound to reflect the influence of passing events — the February weather, the unemployment figures, and reports publicised cases of violence, such as the killing of two-year-old James Bulger in Liverpool.

However, Mr Worcester said, Mori's own polling did show evidence of a more profound and longer-term loss of faith in Britain's governance. "Over the last several decades, there has been a decline, no question about it, in the confidence people have in British institutions," Mr Worcester said. "There is a declining belief in the monarchy, in Westminster and Whitehall, in the judiciary and in the system of government as a whole."



Worcester: even time of year has its effect

The Gallup survey, of 1,030 adults between February 2 and 8, suggests that this loss of faith, extending to all aspects of British society, is now reaching alarming proportions. Asked if they would like to go and settle in another country, were they free to do so, 49 per cent said "Yes", the highest figure since Gallup first asked the question

in 1948, and one not reached even during the high-tax periods of Labour government in the 1960s and 1970s. The urge to emigrate, the survey indicates, is linked both to fears that Britain's social fabric is crumbling and loss of pride in qualities Britain has traditionally stood for.

Comparing people's beliefs with those held 20 to 30 years ago, Gallup found a drop of 80 per cent in those who felt it was safe to walk the streets at night, 76 per cent in those who felt it unnecessary to fortify their homes against burglars, and 60 per cent in those thinking children are normally polite and well-behaved.

Pride in the monarchy has tumbled by 60 per cent, and there have been drops of 50 per cent or more in the beliefs that the "Made in Britain" label guarantees quality, that the British education system is something to be proud of, and that the British gentleman's word is his bond.

Mr Worcester cautioned that distinction should be made between people's immediate concerns and those measured over the longer term. "If politicians are talking about a crisis of morale and there is a great deal of publicity about it, you can expect the British public to respond to such a survey by saying there is a crisis of morale," he said.

He added: "At the moment, the government has been through a bad patch and we are at the end of an economic trough. There is a feeling of economic dispiritedness, a feeling that the gains made under [former prime minister Margaret] Thatcher are being eroded. There have been widely publicised law and order cases, such as the judge suggesting that a rapist should give his victim £500 as punishment. And Britain is never a buoyant place in mid-February."

Mori's polling did support the Gallup picture of a general erosion of belief in some foundations of British society. Asked by Mori in 1973 if they had a great deal or a fair amount of confidence in the system of government in Britain, 47 per cent of respondents said "Yes"; by 1991 this had fallen to 33 per cent.

Disillusion grows among Germans

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

RISING unemployment, the threat of higher taxes, the growing costs of unification and months of wrangling in the coalition government have produced a profound and widespread pessimism in Germany, a growing disillusion with the politicians and a dramatic increase in general angst among ordinary voters.

Polls have found that 30 per cent believed that the federal government was "completely incapable", a further 29 per cent said it was incapable and 83 per cent criticised the behaviour of politicians. More than four in every ten worry about war: 33 per cent are concerned about xenophobia

and right-wing extremism; and 20 per cent spoke of an economic crisis. Overwhelmingly, Germans believe that there should be a stop to immigration, and a swift repatriation of asylum-seekers arriving at the rate of 400,000 a year.

The general pessimism is based on a loss of faith in most large institutions. For many Germans has become "too large". More dramatic is the disillusion with all political parties: the Allensbach polling organisation found that 57 per cent of west Germans and 54 per cent of east Germans are disappointed with them.

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Bribe charges against Fiat directors add to Amato's troubles

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS
IN ROME

As Italy's political crisis deepens, the corruption scandal has claimed more business victims and the lira is in trouble

THE political tribulations of Giuliano Amato, the Italian prime minister, were compounded yesterday as the lira took a hammering after the arrest on corruption charges of two senior executives of the Fiat industrial group.

Signor Amato also disappointed critics when at a cabinet meeting last night he declined to dismiss junior ministers in his government under investigation in connection with bribery enquiries. The prime minister rejected opposition requests for a vote of confidence in parliament after a cabinet reshuffle on Sunday to replace two senior ministers who resigned on Friday in the wake of accusations against them.

"This is only a small shake-up," the Socialist prime minister said. "I do not believe that the government has to ask for a vote in these cases. It does not correspond to normal practice."

Signor Amato added: "I do not believe at all I have to impose resignation on members of the government who have received notification they are under investigation. If somebody presents his resignation for this reason I will not

reject it. But I hold it is incorrect to conclude automatically that notification means being banned from public office. Therefore, there will be no imposition against the under-secretaries" under investigation. Francesco Cossiga, the former president, described the four-party coalition as "a government that has lost its way".

On Sunday, Signor Amato strengthened the cabinet team by bringing in Beniamino Andreatta, the economist, as budget minister after the resignation of Giovanni Goria as finance minister. Raffaele Costa became the new health minister, replacing Francesco de Lorenzo. But Signor Amato failed in an attempt to dislodge Giuseppe Guarino, the industry minister, who has been a critic of the government's vital privatisation programme.

In Turin, the Fiat financial director, Francesco Mattioli, regarded as number three in the car group hierarchy, and Antonio Mosconi, the man-

aging director of the Fiat insurance unit, Toro Assicurazioni, were arrested on charges of bribing politicians while working respectively for the Fiat civil engineering subsidiaries Cogefar Impresit and Fiat Impresit. Since Fiat is Italy's largest private company with a hallowed image as a virtuous part of the establishment, the development shook public confidence. The mark was quoted at 964 lire yesterday afternoon compared with 962 lire an hour earlier and 956 lire on Friday.

The two men were the most senior executives at Fiat arrested yet in connection with the year-long enquiry by Milan magistrates codenamed "Operation Clean Hands." A Fiat statement expressed "full solidarity and the conviction that the two executives will prove their complete innocence."

Judicial sources said Signor Mattioli and Signor Mosconi are suspected of deciding to pay bribes to politicians in return for lucrative contracts linked to the expansion of the Milan metropolitan railway network.

Last year Enzo Papi, a director of Cogefar Impresit, was arrested as part of the investigation into bribery that has threatened to bring down Signor Amato's eight-month-old coalition government. Signor Mattioli took up his post as chief financial officer of the Fiat group in November as part of a reorganisation after the decision of the Fiat magistrate, Gianni Agnelli, in October to step down as Fiat car company chairman by 1994. Last September the Fiat chief executive, Cesare Romiti, conceded the Milan corruption scandal had not left the company image unscathed.

"The matters that have involved many politicians and entrepreneurs, touching even a group of our size, have shown me how difficult is the defence of ethical principles," Signor Romiti then said. "As a citizen and entrepreneur, one cannot but feel ashamed."

Police in Rome yesterday sealed up a railway station in the Vigna Clara suburb of the capital that was built especially for the 1990 World Cup soccer championship. Magistrates investigating corruption during the championship ordered that the building be sequestered after discovering it had been used for only ten days in 1990 and subsequently abandoned.

Fall of lira, page 23

Arrests in France deal blow to Eta

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

FRENCH police have dealt a heavy blow to the Basque guerrilla organisation, Eta, by arresting Rafael Caride Simón, the alleged head of its terrorist operations, as well as half a dozen other suspected extremists in Paris and the Pyrenees region.

Senior Caride Simón, 42, who is said to have been behind the bloodiest attacks in the Eta campaign in Spain, was detained in a café in Toulouse on Saturday in a joint operation between French and Spanish police.

Police, who have intensified their anti-Eta operations in recent months, also uncovered an Eta workshop in Bayonne which was making sub-machineguns. The Spanish authorities hailed the arrest as a breakthrough in their war against Eta. During ten years on the run from Spanish police, he is said to have organised bombings and shootings which claimed the lives of dozens. In the worst, 21 people were killed in a bomb attack on a Barcelona supermarket in 1987.

He was traced through doc-

uments seized at an Eta house in Rambouillet, west of Paris, last week. France has been working with the Spanish authorities to track down Eta members since the mid-1980s, when the Mitterrand administration reversed its earlier policy of giving asylum to Eta guerrillas on the ground that their activities were politically motivated.

In the latest of a series of verdicts, a Paris court yesterday sentenced Jean-Pierre Laureguay, a 25-year-old Basque, to four years' prison for staging a bomb attack on an estate agents' office in the French Pyrenees. An accomplice was given a one-year suspended sentence.

In Madrid, the Spanish government yesterday gave a warning against euphoria. "There is enormous satisfaction about the week's work in France, but there should be no euphoria and people should keep a calm head," an interior ministry spokesman said, adding: "Eta isn't finished yet. There are still armed groups about, including one in Madrid, which are out to kill."



Continental cavalcade: the "King of Europe" float dominating the Nice carnival at the weekend. The theme this year was the opening of the European borders

Steel union goes to court as German firms break pay deal

Workers have been given a choice between lower wages or lay-offs, writes Michael Binyon

CONFLICT in Germany's battered steel and engineering industries sharpened yesterday when employers in two more east German states announced that they would renege on agreements giving hefty wage increases to their workers. The main trade union announced that it would go to court.

Employers in Berlin and Brandenburg, following the lead taken last week by those in Saxony, said they could not honour an agreement with the unions that would have given wage rises of up to 30 per cent. They said recession and the downturn in the economy in east Germany made such a step impossible without jeopardising the existence of all engineering factories in the region. It is the first time since the Weimar Republic that employers have failed to honour wage agreements.

IG Metall, Germany's biggest union, which represents steel and engineering workers, called the step a "clear breach of law", and promised to fight it with all legal and industrial means. The employers have given the union a stark choice: accept lower wage rises or face further lay-offs. The numbers employed in metal-working industries in the two states have been drastically curtailed, falling from 167,000 in

1990 to 83,000 last year, and the employers say a further 50,000 jobs will have to go.

The employers, who are now offering increases of 9 per cent, said wage agreements throughout Germany could no longer be concluded under the illusion that higher wages in the east, matching those in the west, could be produced by the goodwill of politicians, employers and the west German population. Last year productivity per hour in the east was only 40 per cent of the west, while unit costs were 172 per cent of the western level.

Employers called on workers to maintain industrial peace at least until the end of March, when the current agreement expires. Mediation attempts broke down on Friday, and IG Metall is now threatening a general strike in the east.

The unions are in a difficult position. In the west, the prospect of vast lay-offs as part of the slim-down in European

steel-making capacity gives negotiations little room for manoeuvre. And Franz Steinbühler, the head of IG Metall, is now co-operating with the government in an effort to put together a austerity package to free more money for investment in the east.

The threatened closure of all steel-making plants by giants such as Thyssen and Krupp led to big demonstrations in the Ruhr last week. Thousands paraded through Dortmund, Duisburg and other steel-producing cities on Wednesday evening, and many workers tried to use carnival parades over the weekend as a chance to show their grievances.

The government, shaken by the threats of employers to close down the entire steel-making capacity in towns such as Siegen and Hagen, has urged leading firms to put forward detailed plans in the next six months for scaling down the industry. Günter Rodert, the economics minister, said the government had no additional funds to bail out the industry. However he has agreed with Ruprecht Vondran, the steel manufacturers' leader, on the tough line that Germany will take at Thursday's meeting of European Community industry ministers on the steel crisis.

Yeltsin urges military to back reforms

FROM ANNE McELVOY
IN MOSCOW

President Yeltsin of Russia yesterday appealed to the military to resist extremist forces trying to drag the army into a political confrontation.

In an interview published on the eve of armed forces day in Krasnaya Zvezda, the military newspaper, Mr Yeltsin condemned as "evil and irresponsible" those who wanted to "play the army card... by shamelessly assuming for themselves the role of great patriot and defender of others".

His remarks were aimed at hardline nationalists who accuse his reform government of betraying Russia's legacy as a world power. It also, however, contained a plea to the army rank and file to support him at a time when his authority is weakened by continuing strife between the legislature and the executive.

He went on: "The future well-being of the armed forces directly depends on the success of our reforms... on whether we manage to create an efficient market economy." Mr Yeltsin also emphasised his commitment to a non-aggressive foreign policy, saying: "We do not consider any country or coalition of countries, West or East, as our adversary." He went on to praise the armed forces as "guarantors of stability in society... our foreign policy principle is to create a belt of good neighbourly and friendly states".

Mr Yeltsin said that Russian forces should adapt to a role in local rather than international conflicts which, he said, had increased since the end of the Cold war. His statements were calculated to appease ill-feeling in the army which, uncertain of its role and suffering from the morale and practical aftermaths of vast withdrawals from Eastern Europe and the Baltic, is disillusioned with his performance. Military leaders today will lay wreaths to the war dead in the Kremlin on what previously was the Day of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union but is now the Day of the Defenders of the Motherland.

As the stalemate in the country's political process continued, a senior Yeltsin aide gave a warning that the president could find himself reduced to a mere figurehead in a disintegrating Russia if the political disagreement over the role of executive and legislature is not quickly resolved.

Michael Polteranin, head of the president's Federal Information Centre, said that sustained conservative attacks on both Mr Yeltsin and his government had "cut back the president's powers and turned him virtually into the Queen of England", occupying constitutional office but wielding no real power.

Tajiks seize Islamic rebel bases

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN
IN MOSCOW

REBEL forces in Tajikistan have been routed and their main bases captured, the government in Dushanbe said.

Emomali Rakhmonov, the chairman of the Tajik parliament, said in a television broadcast on Sunday that government troops had seized full control of the Garm region and the Kamit canyon, where the rebels have been holding out since being driven from Dushanbe, the capital, in December.

The Dushanbe government, made up of former communist members, is opposed by Islamic fundamentalists, but in Mr Rakhmonov's broadcast, timed on the eve of the Muslim festival of Ramadan, the Tajik leader tried to distance himself from communism. The former communist apparatchik appeared wearing traditional Tajik costume for the first time. "The people of Tajikistan are true Muslims, but they oppose Islamic fundamentalism," he declared.

In recent days Fakhrullo Sharipov, the new mufti of the officially-recognised Islamic hierarchy in the republic, has also offered an olive branch to radical clerics who are opposed to the government and are on the run. He has said that they can return to their mosques and will not be penalised. His predecessor is under arrest for having helped organise the opposition.

The influence of the pro-government mullahs over Tajik Muslims is limited since under former Soviet rule, it was seen as a tool of the communist regime. An underground Islamic movement flourished, owing its allegiance to the Sufi tradition and centred on local saints and shrines. This forms the backbone of any genuine Islamic piety in the region.

Both factions are sponsored by outside forces — Saudi Arabia and Iran — further weakening the fundamentalists. But the fear of fundamentalism spreading from Tajikistan has been the key reason that the Commonwealth of



Independent States (CIS) of the former Soviet Union backs the Dushanbe leadership.

The CIS has promised to send extra battalions to guard the border with Afghanistan and block help from there reaching the Tajik rebels, while Russia has promised to maintain its border forces.

In recent weeks there have been clashes on the border as Tajik rebels, backed by Afghan Mujahidin groups, tried to return after being driven across the Oxus river into Afghanistan in December. It is feared that the battles could open another theatre of war.

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India raises alarm over threat to tiger

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA is worried that its tiger population could be wiped out by the end of the century and has admitted that the official figure of 1,327 tigers on government-run reserves is exaggerated.

A government report says: "This is a critical moment in the history of tiger conservation." The main threats are said to be mining, poaching, grazing and logging.

Another 3,000 tigers are estimated to be roaming on forested areas outside the reserves, and they are also threatened by human encroachment. India is the only country where numerous tigers roam freely. There are believed to be only 2,500 tigers outside India.

Project Tiger, launched 20 years ago, brought the feline back from the point of extinction in India after it had been hunted for centuries for sport. The British Raj inflicted the greatest damage. The former Indian princes were also responsible for large-scale slaughter. By the time Project Tiger was launched there were only a few hundred left. The government has or-

dered a census after declaring that the last one in 1989 was flawed. The country's nineteenth tiger reserve, in the central state of Madhya Pradesh, has just been set up in an existing national park.

National parks have become hiding places for bandits and terrorists, making some unsafe for tourists. Poaching and illegal logging go unchecked because the dacoits are armed and bribe game wardens not to interfere. Armed separatists in Punjab and Assam, in particular, use reserves as hideouts.

The government says dense forests have disappeared, or been denuded in ten reserves. The Nagarjuna jungles in the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, once a big wildlife refuge, have been reduced by half in the past decade.

The government report says the tiger population has been substantially exaggerated in some parks. It notes that since Project Tiger was launched, India's population has risen by 300 million and the number of livestock has gone up by 100 million, putting pressure on forest areas.

Elections in Cuba Wave of spoilt ballots feared

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

CUBA'S Communist party is pulling out all the stops to encourage a high turnout of voters in tomorrow's elections for the country's next parliament.

Cuban dissidents on the island and in Miami have denounced the poll as a sham, pointing out that, although it will be the country's first direct secret ballot since the 1959 revolution, all 589 candidates have been selected from the party and are standing unopposed.

Despite the absence of choice, President Castro has called the election a "political battle" and has made many personal appearances up and down the country as part of an intense campaign. In a letter to the Cuban people published in a Havana newspaper on Sunday, Dr Castro said: "We need a forceful and resounding victory that will show our strength and unity to the enemy at a time when it wants to divide, weaken and demoralise us." The letter ended: "We shall win."

Although there is no doubt about the outcome of the

elections, diplomats say the Communist party is concerned that severe economic hardships might cause many Cubans to protest by spoiling their papers or abstaining. To be elected, candidates must gain the support of at least 50 per cent of voters in their constituencies.

In a first round of single-party elections for municipal assemblies in December, many voters spoiled their papers by writing "No" across

them. In some suburbs of Havana, the capital, journalists reported that up to 30 per cent of ballots were spoilt or left blank. In other areas the number was reported to be even higher. Full results of those elections have not been released.

Last week a right-wing newspaper said it had obtained an internal Communist party poll of voter intentions revealing that 60 per cent of voters intended to spoil their papers or abstain.

The party has described the elections as a referendum on socialist rule, representing an act of confidence in the Communist party despite the economic conditions which grow worse daily. The party says Cuban one-party democracy is "the best in the world" because it is untroubled by Western electoral practices that are subject to corruption.

Critics say the party is using the elections to identify where its support is weakest, in an attempt to bolster the system by supplying those areas with the few government resources available.



Castro: "We need a resounding victory"

Formality must take back seat when Brixton meets Hope



Clinton: not one for history or for pomp

JOHN Major and Bill Clinton meet tomorrow for an international rendezvous which both are fervently hoping will end in a successful partnership.

As with all such arrangements, both parties know something about each other, at least enough to realise that their first meeting may not necessarily be all champagne and roses, but today, as the prime minister applies his metaphorical make-up for this, his first rendezvous with President Clinton, he will be trying to work out what sort of man he is dealing with, and how to make the best impression. The two leaders are different, not just in their politics, but in temperament

Ben Macintyre offers advice to the prime minister on his first meeting with the president: be sure to cultivate Hillary and try to make Chelsea smile

and psychology. First there was the much publicised participation of Tory party officials in the Bush campaign, from which Mr Major has now distanced himself. Then there was the snub Mr Clinton could not find the time to meet him during the transition period. But if the prime minister feels any lingering pique, he would be well advised to disguise it. Mr Clinton is often happy to take advice, but he is not fond of criticism and his fuse is short.

After a month as president, a far clearer picture is emerging of Mr Clinton's personality and style of government: energetic, sometimes pugnacious, intolerant of ignorance and dissension, but flamboyant and even a little volatile. In this Mr Clinton differs from his predecessor, and indeed Mr Major, who flies to Washington today.

Probably the best chance for the two heads of state to "bond", to use a Clintonesque word, lies in the fact that both have made much of their humble origins. "The boy from Brixton" might be an effective theme for both parties to bear in mind. The "classless society" line could be a good conversational gambit for Mr Major; disparaging references to university education, and Oxford in particular, would not.

Body language may also be significant. Mr Clinton is the most tactile of presidents, and the stiff, formal handshake is no longer considered the warm greeting it once was. If President Clinton

seems inclined to hug, the prime minister should go for it. Mr Major's sometimes ponderous style may not go down well with the president. Mr Clinton himself is capable of extreme verbosity, but he does not tolerate the tendency in others.

In spite of his long associations with Oxford, and his much-vaunted Anglophilia, Mr Clinton is not one for history or pomp, and the first whiff of a patronising Old World attitude may scupper the date. As always, first impressions are all-important, and in Mr Clinton's case these often appear to be formed by the president's wife, Hillary. Time spent cultivating the First Lady during this first meeting will pay dividends later, but the prime minister should avoid all references to new curtains, cooking, hair and so on and concentrate on Mrs Clinton's role as health insurance in the new administration. Although they both shop off-the-peg, Hillary Clinton and Norma Major will not become soulmates.

President Clinton is a flamboyant performer, well versed in soundbite and photo-op, and the occasionally self-seeming prime minister can expect to be upstaged somewhat during their combined public appearances. While maintaining the proper reserve, the prime minister should, if possible, try to play

along with President Clinton's taste for the grand gesture. If this becomes too embarrassing, the prime minister could try to cultivate Chelsea Clinton — no visiting dignitary has yet managed to coax a smile out of the president's shy teenage daughter, and should be successful in doing this in front of the TV cameras the prime minister will score points both at home and in America.

Both men will be eager to appear friendly, and their similarities may finally outweigh their differences both as individuals and as representatives of government, and both badly need to illustrate their international stature.

Peacekeepers voice fears at US plans for airlift to Bosnia

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND ADAM LEBOR IN BELGRADE

PRESIDENT Clinton will meet Boutros Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, in Washington today to discuss American plans for an emergency airlift of relief supplies to 200,000 Muslims cut off by Serb forces in eastern Bosnia.

Mr Clinton is eager to begin the operation, but UN officials on the ground in Bosnia have serious reservations. "We are unenthusiastic about this idea," said Barry Frewer, spokesman for the UN Protection Force. "The safety of the airlift missions, the complex planning that would be required, securing the co-operation of the parties to the conflict — all these problems would have to be overcome."

The UN aid operation bringing supplies to Muslims in eastern Bosnia was delayed again yesterday as Bosnian Serbs asked for a postponement of a convoy to the besieged town of Gorazde. UN officials in Belgrade agreed to the request and described it as "reasonable". It had been made because of a funeral held yesterday for Serbs found in graves near the convoy's route. The postponement follows the arrival on Sunday of an aid convoy to the besieged Muslim enclave of Zepa after being refused passage for almost a week by Bosnian Serb forces.

British officials were waiting for details of the American

plan yesterday, but said they hoped any American airlift would be mounted in conjunction with the UN, and would not endanger relief-support troops already in Bosnia. Mr Clinton is confident that the operation could be conducted without putting US aircraft at risk from Serbian ground fire, but it was not clear how America would retaliate if its planes were shot at.

Washington is now pressing for a UN resolution to enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia, which Britain and France fear could put their troops at risk and jeopardise the relief operation. But sources said they did not expect the US administration to make the resolution a condition of the airlift.

The airlift would enable Mr Clinton to argue that America was playing the more aggressive role in Bosnia which he promised during last year's election campaign. He had condemned President Bush's passivity, but has since retreated from the idea of military intervention or arming the Bosnian Muslims in favour of further negotiations.

Administration officials said Mr Clinton was still studying how the airlift would be carried out. Low-level drops could expose giant C-130 transport planes to ground fire, but high altitude drops by other planes would be inaccurate. Air cover could be provided by naval warplanes. Officials said the



Purging fires: a pillar of smoke rises near Mogadishu as US troops, after one of their biggest arms round-ups so far, supervise the destruction of thousands of shells and mortar rounds seized from Somali factions

Irish nurse killed in Somali ambush

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

FIGHTING between rival factions killed seven Somalis and wounded 21 in the southern port of Kismayu yesterday and gunned killed an Irish nurse in a roadside ambush near Mogadishu, military officials said.

The Kismayu fighting was the most serious in Somalia in weeks and came a day before American forces in the area were to start leaving for home. A ceremony scheduled for today to hand over control of the security operation in Kismayu to Belgian forces was postponed.

Marine Colonel Fred Peck, the US military spokesman, said the fighting had begun before dawn and ended yesterday morning. He said American and Belgian troops in the area had not been involved in the conflict, which lasted five hours. An overnight curfew would be imposed and the troops' departure would probably be delayed only a day or two.

Valerie Plaiice, 23, a nurse for the Irish relief agency Concern, was shot dead in an attack on her vehicle outside Afgoi, about 30 miles north of Mogadishu, Colonel Peck said. Officials of the charity in Mogadishu said that Miss Plaiice, who had been based in the capital for six months, was to begin work in Baidoa to the northwest today. They said that the vehicle in which she was travelling had come under attack from at least ten Somali gunmen and that an armed guard had also been injured.

In January gunmen killed Sean Devereux, a British worker for the United Nations Children's Fund in Kismayu.

A television producer, Paul Harrison, who was in one of the cars and filmed part of the shooting, added: "[Miss Plaiice] was hit by several bullets. The [US] military passing by called up a helicopter which took her to hospital in Mogadishu but she died five minutes after her arrival. Two other people were slightly

wounded. Speaking to Irish state radio from Baidoa, a Concern spokesman, Michael O'Reilly, said: "Unfortunately this had been on the cards for some time. A number of people have got shot dead on that same particular road in recent weeks. There are literally bandits. There are no organised attacks. There are maybe five or six gunmen who jump out in the road in front of the car and start firing shots."

Aid workers say there have been several bandit attacks around Afgoi, despite a crackdown by the American-led task force assembled under the UN flag to protect relief supplies and aid workers.

Asked if the UN-mandated troops could do more to protect aid workers, Mr O'Reilly said: "One can hardly expect a military escort can travel with every possible aid worker in Somalia... I think they are doing everything possible to protect the workers."

"Our team here and all the aid workers in Baidoa were absolutely devastated by the news. People are in floods of tears. We are very sorry to have lost an aid worker who has given so much to the people of Somalia. It is a difficult blow to bear."

Earlier yesterday Miss Plaiice had been present when heavyweights boxing champion on Riddick Bowe toured a Concern feeding centre in Mogadishu.

About 33,000 troops from 23 nations are taking part in the UN Operation Restore Hope to get food aid through to starving Somalis. Relief workers have expressed concern that security would deteriorate after the Americans leave.

The foreign troops began arriving on December 9 to restore order in a nation racked by clan warfare and famine. At least 350,000 Somalis died last year from starvation, disease or the clan fighting.

US envoy aims to save peace talks

Jerusalem: Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, was expected in Jerusalem last night on the final leg of his Middle East tour aimed at reviving the deadlocked peace process (Richard Besson writes). Although the American envoy was due to land at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport in the afternoon, his arrival was delayed by an unscheduled visit to the Lebanese capital, the first trip by such a senior American figure in a decade.

The surprise stopover in Beirut was seen as an important symbolic endorsement for the new Lebanese government of Rafik Hariri, whose administration is desperate to receive international support for its efforts to restore authority to the war-ravaged country. Elaborate security precautions surrounded Mr Christopher's helicopter ride into the Lebanese defence ministry compound at Yaze.

□ New York: United Nations weapons inspectors in Iraq, apparently acting on information uncovered last week, yesterday began an intense search for a suspected ballistic missile facility (James Bone writes). UN experts said they hoped to make a major find, but Iraqi officials denied they were hiding anything that contravened the UN resolution prohibiting Iraq from possessing weapons of mass destruction.

Theory aired on Malcolm X

Chicago: Nation of Islam leader, Louis Farrakhan, has said that his organisation's founder, Elijah Muhammad, did not order the assassination of black Muslim leader Malcolm X 28 years ago. But he said many members were angered by Malcolm X's criticism of Muhammad and would have been capable of killing him. "When Malcolm X stepped across that line, death was inevitable."

Three men, including two members of the Nation of Islam, were given life sentences for shooting Malcolm X in 1965. Mr Farrakhan said he wanted to clarify questions raised by the film, *Malcolm X*, which hints that the Nation of Islam, or American agents, may have been involved in the murder. (AP)

Berlin awards



Berlin: Denzel Washington, above, who won the best actor prize at the Berlin international film festival for the title role in *Malcolm X*. Michelle Pfeiffer was named best actress for *Love Field*. (AP)

Expert chosen

Seoul: Kim Young Sam, who this week takes over as president of South Korea, has chosen Hwang In Sung, 67, a former army general and economic expert as prime minister. (Reuters)

Poles seized

Brussels: Police have arrested two Poles after discovering 7,850 tear-gas canisters in a car during a routine check in Antwerp. (Reuters)

UN votes to set up war crimes court

By JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND ROGER BOYES

THE United Nations Security Council voted unanimously yesterday to set up the first international war crimes tribunal since Nuremberg to try those responsible for atrocities in the conflict in former Yugoslavia. The 15-nation council adopted a resolution approving the creation of the court in principle and asking Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, to draw up detailed proposals on how it would work in practice.

The passing of the resolution marked the success of pressure on China, one of the five veto powers, to support it. The issue was put high on his agenda by President Clinton, who has been pressing a reluctant Peking to fall into line with the other veto powers, America, Britain, France and Russia, and the rest of the security council.

The council will have to vote again in about two months to endorse Dr Boutros Ghali's recommendations before the court can be set up. The court's jurisdiction will be limited to "persons responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law in the territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991".

France, which drafted yesterday's resolution, has proposed that the tribunal be composed of 15 judges with the power to try war criminals in their absence if necessary. The French proposal rules out the death penalty, saying that those found guilty should be imprisoned, possibly in a neutral country.

International legal experts have pointed out, however, that it may be impossible either to get sufficient evidence against suspected war criminals or to arrest them. The security council's own "commission of experts" of war crimes, said last week that it would be particularly hard to prosecute the leaders of the warring factions.



Boutros Ghali: to draw up detailed proposals

Nuremberg hearings dispensed a form of "victor's justice". In Yugoslavia it is not clear that there will be any victor.

In any event, some of the politicians named as suspected war criminals by the US State Department — including Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, and Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader — are needed at the negotiating table. The cases against them will therefore be influenced by such pragmatic considerations as whether letting them go free would be the unavoidable price of peace.

America borrows European ideas to aid industry

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA is about to move towards a European-style system of industrial policy, marked by direct government subsidies to certain industries, possibly coupled with a more restrictive trade policy.

The adoption of such an "American first" policy would amount to the latest in a line of restrictions on foreign companies, after the expected closing of lucrative tax loopholes and the increase in the number of tax audits.

The new industrial policy, which was to be outlined by President Clinton last night, would result in an increase of federal research aid to companies in selected high-tech sectors, such as the aircraft industry. It reflects growing frustration within the top

echelon in the Clinton administration that the incipient economic recovery in the United States, combined with large recent increases in productivity, has failed to lead to a rise in jobs.

On his whistle-stop tour of the country, the president yesterday flew to Seattle to visit Boeing, the world's largest aircraft manufacturer. In a meeting with 3,000 workers, Mr Clinton was confronted directly with the acute difficulties faced by some of the country's high-tech companies and its employees.

Many of those present were among the 28,000 Boeing workers whose jobs will be lost over the next 18 months.

In a speech on Sunday in Santa Monica, California, Mr Clinton gave an inkling of his administration's future strategy. The president, who in a previous address had lambasted the Europeans for engaging in unfair trade, now praised Europe for the way in which it spent 20 years subsidising high-tech industries, creating new technologies and jobs in the process.

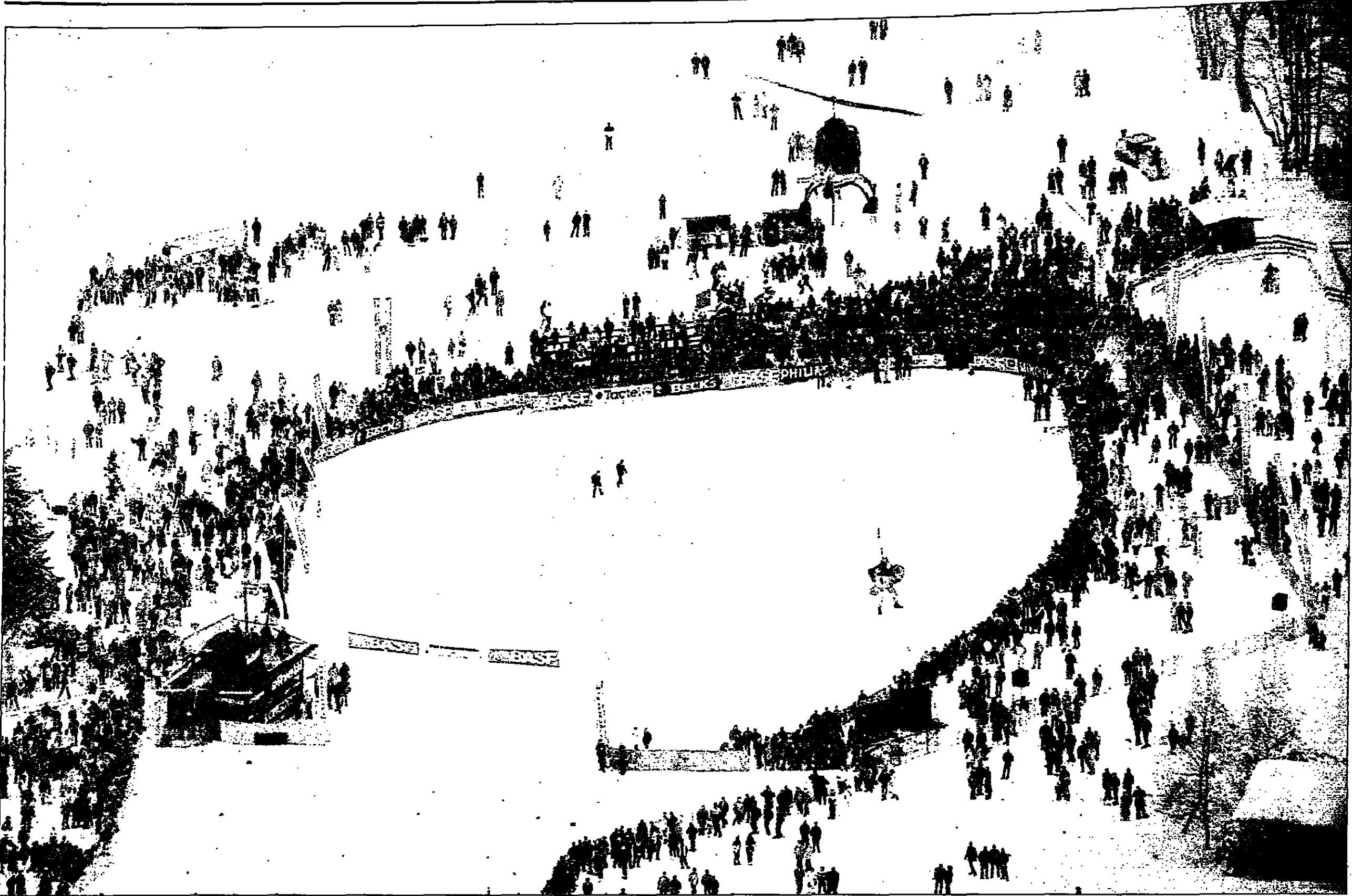
Despite the president's praise for the joint industrial concept behind Airbus, it is the European aircraft consortium that is likely to suffer most from any new industrial strategy in America. Apart from more direct government help to competitors of Airbus, the Clinton administration is also expected to cement its industrial policy with trade sanctions against Airbus to protect Boeing's domestic market share.

Calls for trade sanctions on Airbus have coincided with the European consortium's seemingly inexorable foray into the American market. Last year Airbus had a North American market share of 43 per cent in new orders, largely reflecting a bulk order for 50 aircraft from United Airlines. With a market share of this scale, Airbus has relegated McDonnell Douglas to a poor third and is close on the heels of Boeing in the North American market.

The Bush administration and the European Commission had agreed last year on a compromise that would limit government involvement in industry while keeping the

markets open. But the Clinton administration appears unhappy with this agreement in its present form, and might want to renegotiate to allow for the type of industrial policies currently on the White House drawing board.

Mr Clinton, who is taking his proposals for higher taxes and to reduce the budget deficit directly to the American people, was cheered by crowds everywhere he went in the financially strapped West Coast. In California, where thousands have lost jobs because of the reduction of the defence industry, Mr Clinton said he was releasing \$500 million (£347 million) in funds to help communities retrain workers moving from defence to civilian work.



Up and away: a crashed skier is airlifted by helicopter from the Hahnenkamm at Kitzbühel. "Crutches were as common as ski poles. Sometimes, the Hahnenkamm was like an assembly line with bodies pouring off the end"

Of men, maniacs, and mountains

Andy Martin set out to analyse the wild thrills of downhill racing from Kitzbühel's best vantage point, the hospital

Long before I ever put on skis, I saw an episode of *The Dick Van Dyke Show* in which Dick Van Dyke goes off on a skiing weekend. He can't ski and Mary Tyler Moore, his wife, doesn't want him to go. You'll probably come back on a stretcher, she says. Inevitably, he ends up in hospital. So desperate is he not to lose face that he has himself patched up and delivered to his door. He plans to bluff it out. Mary has prepared a candlelit dinner for two and is dressed in a seductive negligee. Dick is fine, he says, just a little stiff. While Mary waits for him in bed, he changes into his pyjamas in the bathroom. He

tries to cool her ardour, but she soon sniffs out his secret: he is bandaged up like an Egyptian mummy. He is forced to vow never to go skiing again.

Callahan had seen it too. He didn't think there was any deep meaning to it. "You never get to see any sex on American TV," he complained. "Especially between husband and wife."

With Callahan it sometimes seemed as if skiing was a substitute for sex; for Cosimo it was the other way round: sex was a substitute for skiing. Cosimo was the Alpine guide and criminologist who taught me to ski; Callahan was a Hawaiian hedonist and photographer who had swapped

surf for snow. Medieval saints went up mountains to elude the sins of the flesh and become more holy and get closer to God. Now most of us go on skiing holidays to flirt with temptation. St Moritz promised risks and adventures that were as much moral as physical.

In Austria, I picked up a picture postcard of a mountain reconfigured as a woman, with exaggerated proportions and gullies, and men clambering all over her. I sent it to Cosimo, extolling the

glories of nature. Ski gear reconfigured you too; the figure-hugging garments were an exercise in covert pornography, designed to envelop the contents but amplify the form, endowing even the most sinewy — men and women alike — with absurdly voluptuous bulges and curves. Mountains were both an invitation to an orgy and an insuperable obstacle in the way of satisfaction. They gave you a woman in a negligee and tied you up in bandages.

In Kitzbühel the best view of the Hahnenkamm, the venue for the fifth World Cup downhill in mid-January 1991, was from the windows of the Krankenhaus hospital, conveniently situated at the bottom of the slopes. The Horn cable-car dropped you off at the door on the assumption that you wouldn't be able to walk very far. There was a church nearby, with a graveyard (in fact there were two churches and two graveyards). Lying in bed with your leg in plaster you could see your assailant still loitering over you with his head in the clouds. Horn: the German word portrayed the mountain as a bull that has gored a matador or a unicorn that had thrown its rider. The hospital was a gift to the journalist: it was the only place where you could be sure your subject wouldn't slide away from you.

The soothsayers were right: there were more injuries here than anywhere else. Even before I arrived, a lot of contenders had already dropped out. Red cross helicopters were taking off and landing as if it were a war zone. Crutches were as common as ski poles. Sometimes, the Hahnenkamm was like an assembly line with bodies pouring off the end. At the Krankenhaus everybody was working overtime.

If you stayed here long enough you could count on meeting most members of the US team. Bill Hudson had a room of his own. "Yeah, we're going to book in advance next time," he cracked, looking every inch like Dick Van Dyke, but even less mobile. He was one of the score of victims notched up by the Mausfalle. Back in the sixties Robert Redford had played the part of a fictional American skier who comes out of nowhere to win the Olympics. *Downhill Racer* was received with incredulity in Austria, and so too was brash American Bill Johnson when he won the gold medal at Sarajevo in 1984, but Bill

Hudson had not relinquished the dream.

The Mausfalle — or Mouse-trap — was a form of punishment meted out to anyone who went off the line. From the top of the course you could see the skiers take off, pick up speed until they were doing 60 miles an hour going through the second gate after only four seconds, and then dive into a white hole, as if through the platform of a scaffold. Ten seconds later, you saw them again, swerving round a tight right-hander, half a mile below, sometimes you didn't see them again, unless you went along to the Krankenhaus. If they took the wrong line they would fly over the fence and into the trees. Six out of 13 Austrians failed to finish on the first training run. *The peacocks' neck* read the sign above the confessional at the church; but it was to the Krankenhaus that most skiers came to confess and expiate their sins.

Bill Hudson was lucky, he said. "They were just the small trees, which is nice. I missed the rock." He had a broken left arm, a cracked right shoulder blade, a compression fracture of the vertebra, a collapsed lung and kidney damage. "Yeah, nothing major," he said cheerfully as I read out the list a doctor had handed me. "Sounds worse than it is: lots of little things. I feel good, just kind of uncomfortable."

"Will this stop you racing?" I asked. "Jesus, no. I could do this a hundred times and it wouldn't stop me. I wasn't out of control, I just went right when I should have gone straight. I heal pretty well. I'll be back in six weeks maximum." Hudson was still passing blood and seeing double. His face looked as if it had gone ten rounds with Sonny Liston. Callahan examined him with his lens like a doctor with a stethoscope.

A.J. Kitt bounced up and down to test the mattress and eyed a passing nurse appreciatively. "Looks like you got it cracked here, Bill," he said. Kitt, a New Yorker who cultivated an unshaven look and jutting sideburns, was the leading American, three years on the tour and starting to get consistent top 15 results. "Hey! Our A.J. is really rolling," Bill Egan, the coach whooped when he was placed

ninth in Val Gardena. "He's about to bust one out any day now!" His first names, Alva Junior, were enough to explain why he liked to be known by his initials. He thought *Downhill Racer* was a "cool movie," but said that his inspiration came from his parents, who used to stand him on the tank of their motorbike when he was a kid. "I like being on the edge. When I'm not doing something reckless, life seems boring."

In the main ward, Andrew Christie gave me a Hong Kong lawyer's summing up of the Brian Stern rule saga. And I didn't have to pay a penny for the consultation. He had alternate legs in the air at the time. He was giving himself traction, pulling on cords on either side of his bed. It had been a shock when he woke up and found he had been sta-

that injuries he sustained while skiing there on February 10, 1974, were caused when his ski became entangled in a bush growing at the side of the trail. The defence argued that Sunday was a novice skier whose skis were too long for his level of ability and that he was injured because he couldn't turn when he should have done. The jury took the plaintiff's side and even awarded him another quarter of a million dollars on top of his original claim.

On May 31, 1977, Judge Wynn Underwood of the Chittenden County Superior Court issued a ruling that ski operators were potentially liable for all downhill skiing accidents. The immediate effect was to increase lift ticket prices as resorts rushed to insure themselves against similar claims and to enlarge the official exclusion zones on American mountains.

"The trouble with the great American public," Andrew said, "is they think somebody has to pay if they get hurt." He reckoned skiing litigation involving the principle of "comparative negligence" would be a growth area. It was perfect: you could argue indefinitely over who was more to blame. If you were hit by a car, was he driving too fast or were you not looking? If you were raped, was he violating you or were you leading him on? It was the same with mountains: they encouraged you to get into trouble. Kitzbühel was like a huge

department store that had sent security home for the day and invited in a coachload of kleptomaniacs.

I had met Andrew's wife Fanny at breakfast in my hotel. She was a pretty woman with a wide smile and good teeth. He said that she was a better skier than he was.

"She must be — she's not here, is she?" The voice came from a solid slab of plaster across the room. There was a small round black hole carved into the whiteness where the mouth ought to be. It was like hearing a drain speak.

Andrew asked me to look after Fanny while he was laid up. I promised I would. I took her up the Hahnenkamm in the fog and lost her on the Steilhang. I never saw either of them again.

The woman at reception said, "This is our busy period." Then she added, "Mind you, summer is busy too." In winter it was the skiers, in summer the climbers. "Last year, it was the head, this year it's legs and

shoulders." The broken bodies being trundled past her were like barometers of the conditions outside. "Last year, ice and stones, this year, more snow." But there were some things that never changed. "Always it is the heart." People came from sea level in the north and went up 2,000 ft in the cable car and suffered cardiac arrest before they even hit the slopes.

Everything is possible," added Dr Schentner, who had a benign walrus moustache. "Spine too. Tibia, fibula, knee, hip. In good times, we have 70 to 100 fresh injuries per day." Kitzbühel was keeping the medical and legal professions in clover. As we were going, Dr Schentner called out to us. "Try not to come back here — on a stretcher, I mean."

Kitzbühel enjoyed a deserved reputation as the most dangerous of contemporary courses. But another Austrian course held the record for the greatest number of injuries in a single race.

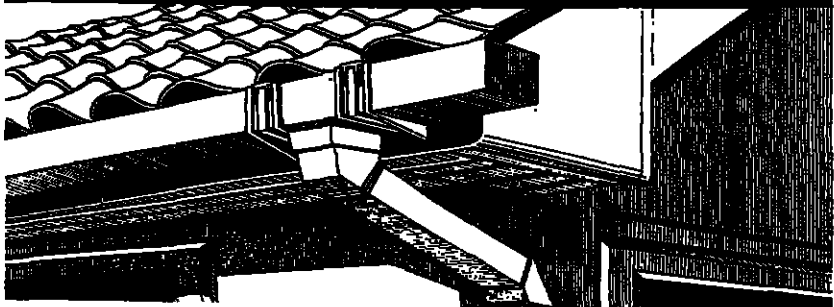
In 1936 the World Championships were held one week after the Garmisch Olympics. The weather broke as the games ended, a thaw removed most of the snow from the Innsbruck course, and a sharp frost turned what was left to a sheet of ice. Arnold Lunn, a member of the race committee, tried to postpone the event until the sun had softened the surface; he wished later he had had it cancelled.

Veteran mountaineer Hermann Steuri, who fell twice in the race, declared it more frightening than climbing the north face of the Matterhorn. The Devil's Glade, a ribbon of polished snow about two feet wide, bordered by a line of tree stumps, accounted for four out of six of the French team alone. The Ladies' Glade ended in sharp traverse, with more stumps guarding its frontier, leading into the final schuss. The Norwegian Sigurd Røed, his steel edges skittering over the ice, was hurled into the air by a stump and somersaulted five times, striking the ground each time with his head. Some, including Peter Lunn, who still managed to finish ninth, landed among the crowd. Out of 54 competitors 17 were too seriously injured to finish. Others were hurt, but held on until the finish line, and then fainted. The casualties included three stretcher cases among the spectators, one with a broken leg, the other two suffering from hysteria.

From *Coming Down the Mountain* by Andy Martin, published by John Murray on March 11 (£16.99).

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Stay shapely; stay healthy

A woman with a buxom figure may well be in better fettle than her pencil-slim sister, reports Ann Kent

This is not only considered beautiful. It is also synonymous with being in good shape and that means being healthy. But the latest research into a wide range of diseases is forcing scientists to redefine what is meant by good shape.

If you want to gauge how your weight is likely to affect your health, it makes more sense to reach for a tape measure than to stand on the scales. And this advice does not just apply to the frankly overweight — but to everyone. For it appears that the light-weight person whose shape is straight up and down may well be at greater risk of serious disease than an obviously fat person with a well defined waist.

Obesity researchers now believe that the type of fat laid down round the middle is biochemically different from fat laid down in other parts of the body and appears to have harmful effects on hormones and blood fats. When big amounts of this fat are laid down in the abdominal cavity, the waist/hip ratio alters — providing a clear warning sign of future health risks. As a result, the difference between waist and hip measurements is no longer regarded as cosmetic, but as a crucial health indicator.

Although fat distribution which gives almost equal waist and hip measurements is commonest among men — it has been found that women who take on this pattern acquire male cardiovascular disease risks. The most recent studies suggest that "apple-shaped" females face an increased risk of breast cancer — and now, it seems of infertility too.

Last Friday, the *British Medical Journal* published research showing that pear shaped women are more likely to conceive than women who store fat round their middles. The finding was based on a study of 500 healthy females seeking artificial insemination, because their partners were infertile. The smaller the difference between their waist and hip measurements, the greater the problems of conception. These findings held true even after other factors such as weight, age and menstrual cycle regularity were taken into account.

Last month the *Journal of the American Medical Association* published a five-year study of deaths occurring among nearly 42,000 Iowa women aged 55 to 69 which showed mortality linked to waist/hip ratios. A 6in increase in the waists of women with 40in hips was associated with a 60 per cent increased mortality risk. The links between central obesity and breast cancer are strongest in women who have a family history of the disease. In this case, according to research from Minneapolis, women with the highest waist/hip ratios were at three times the risk of women with the lowest ratios.

Other health risks associated with central obesity include heart disease, strokes, diabetes and gallstones. People whose fat is spread more evenly — even if they are more obese than the "apples" — do not share these risks, although they may be more prone to varicose veins. Scientists are working to establish whether central obesity causes this ever growing list, or whether it is a symptom of another, underlying disorder.

Professor David Barker, of



Health warning: a boyish figure, such as that of the sitter in Dorothea M.S. Johnstone's "Rest Time in the Life Class", may indicate a higher risk of illness

the Medical Research Council environmental epidemiology unit at Southampton University, has published studies tracing ill health in adulthood to adverse conditions before birth and in infancy.

Central obesity is strongly associated with a condition known as insulin resistance — a disturbance in body chemistry where abnormally high levels of insulin are required to control blood sugar levels. Professor Barker points out that insulin acts as a growth hormone for the developing foetus. If the food supply is interrupted because the mother is undernourished or the placenta is not working properly, the foetus will need to resist the effects of insulin.

Professor Barker says: "Insulin resistance is strongly linked to retarded early growth. Our studies also suggest that small babies tend to store fat abnormally in adulthood. This may be a response to undernutrition and growth failure in the womb."

Other studies suggest that the insulin resistance which is so often found among apple-shaped individuals has unfavourable effects on blood fats, which explain those people's increased risk of heart disease. Insulin resistance may damage fertility by affecting the quality of stored ova, and possibly increase spontaneous abortion rates.

Scientists have devised a rather arbitrary ratio to help individuals to determine their risk. When women divide their waist measurement with their hip measurement they should come up with 0.75 or less. Men need a figure of about 0.9 for a lower risk. Some researchers give the male/female figures as 0.8 and 1. However, they agree that the more unfavourable the ratio the greater the risk.

"We know that obesity is

linked to ill health — and we hit upon weight as the way of measuring it," says Kaytee Khaw, professor of clinical gerontology at the University of Cambridge. "In fact, people who are heavy may be heavily muscled. We now know that central obesity is much more important, and the more unfavourable the waist/hip ratio the greater the risk."

Dieting to solve the problem may be not only unsuccessful but actually harmful. Weight

cycling — yoyo dieting — has been linked with an increased risk of heart disease. So what should apple-shaped people do to minimise their risks?

Exercise is particularly important. Professor Khaw says. Increased exercise reduces insulin resistance by improving the uptake of glucose from the blood into the muscles.

She believes that differences in activity levels, rather than genetics, may explain why two people who eat the same

amounts may lay down weight in different places. Research has shown that people who eat the most food are often at the lowest risk of heart disease.

Smokers are more inclined to lay down fat centrally. "It is ironic that many smokers do not want to give up because of fears of weight gain. We now think that even if they put on some weight, their fat distribution will be more favourable."

The quickest solution, for those who can afford it, might seem to be simply to ask a cosmetic surgeon to vacuum away the fat with a procedure known as liposuction. But Professor Khaw says: "If you see central obesity as a marker for an unhealthy lifestyle, taking away the fat will not solve the problem."

Dr Margaret Ashwell, the science director at the British Nutrition Foundation, points out the irony of the popularity of diets which claim to reduce hip and thigh measurements. She strongly believes that the peripheral fat is medically harmless (except in cases of extreme obesity), and that scarce NHS resources should be concentrated on those with central obesity.

In one respect, at least, apples are more fortunate than pears. As any British pear-shaped woman will confirm, dieting simply produces a smaller pear. However a weight loss in apples is likely to lead to a much more favourable waist/hip ratio.

Sudden vision of why it's hard to learn

Adjusting people's eyesight may be critical in improving their ability, according to research in America

Do eye specialists in Britain have a blind spot when it comes to behavioural optometry?

Mr Keith Holland, an optometrist in Cheltenham, and the pioneer in Britain of the technique, believes they do. He also believes that the battery of tests he employs, developed in America more than 20 years ago, show that learning difficulties can be traced back to specific weaknesses in the visual system.

"Good vision isn't just a matter of being able to see the bottom line of an eye-test chart," says Mr Holland. "In-

stead it involves co-ordinating a number of complicated abilities like changing focus, seeing in 3D and tracking a moving object. Being poor at any of these can have particularly damaging effect on the hardest task for our eyes — learning to read."

Tom Varley is typical of the hundreds of children that Mr Holland claims to have helped with behavioural optometry.

"Tom was 18 when he came to see Mr Holland," explained his father. "He'd had problems with learning since he was six and we'd done everything — special classes, assessments by psychologists, examinations by doctors — but no one had ever said anything about his vision not being 100 per cent, in fact according to a test he had his eyesight was not a problem."

"His work was very poor and to make matters worse his behaviour was getting worse. He was aggressive and withdrawn and he didn't want to try at anything." Last year, an educational psychologist suggested that Tom should see Mr Holland who diagnosed him as having several quite severe difficulties with focusing, tracking an object and seeing in 3D. He was given some glasses and a range of eye exercises to do at home.

"The difference was extraordinary," said his father. "We came to realise he had actually been seeing the world quite differently from us and that was why he had been so difficult. Within six months he started studying and eventually got two GCSE passes, something that would have been unthinkable before his treatment."

Mr Holland believes the traditional eye test — designed to check the way the two eyes work together, the binocular function — does not allow for an understanding of the implications for reading if there is a problem.

One of the aspects of behavioural optometry which is unknown in this country but widely used in America, is its application to juvenile delinquency.

Dr Joel Zaba, a behavioural optometrist from Norfolk, Virginia, claims that the results of his 20 years' study suggest that juvenile delinquents (which he defines as those sent to residential care facilities by the courts) who have had their visual problems treated are six times less likely to re-offend than those left untreated.

The eye establishment in this country remains resistant to the claims of behavioural optometry. Professor Geoffrey Woodward, Head of Optometry and Visual Sciences at City University in London, declared the verdict "not proven" and complained of a lack of scientific rigour in testing the various forms of treatment. "I suspect there is strong placebo effect," he said. "People get better because they get the attention and believe it is doing them good." A charge which seemed to ignore the fact that many of Mr Holland's clients had had all kinds of special attention for years.

Simon Bernard, a lecturer in clinical optometry, and the head of paediatrics at City University, while paying tribute to Mr Holland's professionalism, says: "My feeling is that it would be unusual for visual weaknesses to be the main difficulty when there is a learning problem." But he does believe that learning difficulties cases should always go to an ophthalmologist who specialises in children since otherwise the significance of certain weaknesses might be missed.

The Dyslexia Association was equally doubtful that visual shortcomings were as important as behavioural optometry claimed. Jo Matty, the association's national chairman, estimated that "about 10 per cent of children with specific reading difficulties might have problems with vision".

Henry Crowther, who together with his wife, runs the Educational Advisory Service in Tewkesbury, which deals mainly with children with learning difficulties, is more sympathetic to behavioural optometry. "We have sent about 450 children who had problems with school work to see Keith Holland in the last five years," he says, "and I'd say 90 per cent were found to have some problem with their vision."

Mr Holland's vision seems unlikely to fade. He has been running seminars and there are now about 30 qualified optometrists who are practising behavioural optometry in Britain.

JEROME BURNES
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An extra inch of life

Being tall does not make you healthy, but is recognised as a symptom of good health. The factors that explain the increasing height of the British, also explain improved public health and longevity, says the historian Dr Reginald Flood.

Dr Flood, provost of London Guildhall University, says: "We now have some very good evidence from Norway that the taller you are — up to a height of about 6ft 2in, the greater your expectation of life. The reasons probably have a lot to do with your nutritional status before birth and in the first years of life."

"However, warm environments, lack of disease and love are also very important. When you take children who have been well cared for in institutions and put them with foster parents, they grow taller."

In the 18th century, aristocratic adolescent boys were 20 centimetres taller than slum children of the same age. The

height differentials between classes are less obvious now, although people in social classes four and five are still shorter.

The average height of the British male is about 5ft 9in and 5ft 10in, Dr Flood says. "Ideally, according to the Swedish evidence, men need to be taller, but no taller than we are today. It is bad news to be short and overweight."

A number of studies have confirmed that short men are more prone to heart attacks. A study of physicians in America found that those measuring 5ft 7in or less were at significantly greater risk than those who were 6ft or over.

However, it is important to remember that heart disease does not appear to have a single cause. "According to a study published last year in the *Journal of the Royal College of Physicians*, people with a large number of creases in their earlobes can be at higher risk."

Keeping blood clots at bay

BOTTOM LINE

given only once a day and of being much less likely to cause untoward bleeding. The price of Clexane is £3.64 per day, this provides a dose for patients of moderate risk. Patients of high risk need twice the dose, which would seem a small price to pay for a life saved. The usual course is for seven to ten days.

Measures against deep vein thromboses should also include graduated compression stockings, according to Mr John Scurr, a consultant surgeon at the Middlesex and University College Hospitals, who is widely regarded as an expert on DVT. Such stockings improve the circulation in the leg and thereby reduce the risk of deep vein thrombosis. In Mr Scurr's unit, a pneu-

matic "boot" which can be pumped up for 12 seconds in each minute has also been tried successfully as a means of keeping the blood flowing, and the clots at bay.

Any patient undergoing surgery should now expect a careful assessment of his or her risk of developing a deep vein thrombosis and or pulmonary embolism, Mr Scurr says. He places in his table of risk factors the age and sex of the patient (women and older people are more at risk); the severity of the surgery; any history of clotting problems; any hormone therapy, whether HRT or the Pill for instance; existing malignancies or history of malignancies. Major pelvic surgery and orthopaedic surgery, particularly

of the hip joint, are notorious for causing thrombotic troubles and some recent work has suggested that laparoscopic surgery of the abdomen may also carry an increased risk.

A great many DVTs produce no symptoms when the patient is in hospital, Mr Scurr says. Some patients have collapsed after returning home and their deaths have often been attributed to heart attacks. Mr Scurr believes that the true death rate due to pulmonary emboli is much greater than has been supposed.

In America, a series of court cases has alerted surgeons to the need to consider prophylactic measures against DVTs. In France and Germany, surgeons are ahead of Britain and America. In Germany, 59 per cent of orthopaedic cases have heparin, whether the

standard form or low molecular weight heparin, as a prophylactic, and 56 per cent of general surgical cases have similar treatment. In France, 52 per cent of orthopaedic cases and 49 per cent of general cases are so treated. In Britain, only 19 per cent of orthopaedic cases and 15 per cent of general cases have prophylactic medication.

Whatever the medication, however carefully patients are fitted with compression bandages, however soon they are heaved out of their beds and made to walk after surgery, some patients will develop clotting problems. Mr Scurr says that mortality can never be eradicated but he believes the time has now come when the courts, on this side of the Atlantic as in America, will force surgeons and hospital administrators to a greater awareness of its dangers.

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

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Lynne Truss



■ I just can't imagine the emotional dynamic involved in wanting to sabotage an angler

Fish have rights, you know. I learned this important piece of information last week as I was innocently travelling up an escalator at Tottenham Court Road, where aquatic matters are arguably furthest from a person's mind. But there it was, one of those little hand-written labels that fanatics attach to the posters, stating it quite plainly, "Fish Have Rights". Of course I laughed out loud — rights to what? fair trial? freedom of expression? abortion on demand? — but then stopped, confused. I mean, perhaps "Fish Have Rights" was a joke. Or maybe it was the name of a really famous pop group. Worse, perhaps it signified nothing at all, but had been written by an unreconstructed surrealist, to see whether the word "fish" in peculiar contexts still made people feel vertiginous and paranoid. In which case, I reflected (as I grasped the moving handrail for support), the experiment appeared to be working.

But it's all true. "Fish Have Rights" is the latest thing in the anti-bloodsports campaign, and the British angler is the object not only of moral opprobrium but of sabotage attack. Really. There was a piece in the *Sunday Times*. Robert Redford has attached a disclaimer to his fly-fishing movie, *A River Runs Through It*, promising that no little fishes were killed, harmed, or even mildly disgruntled in the making of it, yet the 300-strong Campaign for the Abolition of Angling is still thinking to picket the cinemas ("This film degrades fish", I suppose).

I had no idea of all this strength of feeling. Sitting quietly on a river bank under a big umbrella, thoughtfully masticating a cheese roll, our angler looks up in surprise to see a fully rubberised frogman advancing from the water, yelling that he is barbaric. Talk about surreal. What a way to find out that the first right of fish is the right to representation.

Personally, I could never love a fish. It is something to do with their short memories. Call me anthropocentric, but I refuse to lavish affection on a creature that, every few seconds, can't remember where it's seen you before. All aquarium-owners will gladly tell you that the extremely short memory-span of the fish is its great salvation in captivity, because while it endlessly circles its tank it supposedly thinks, "Well, this is interesting, run, this is interesting, go, this is interesting, corks, this is interesting." But to me, that retention problem is a stumbling block to sympathy, and I doubt I shall ever march on Parliament with our amnesiac aquatic friends. "What do we want?" we humans would shout. And the fish would give us that blank panicky look, as if to say "How do you mean?"

On the other hand, I do agree that it is odd to call angling a sport, when there is obviously never the slightest possibility that the trout will win. The great outdoors Man against fish! Well, you have to admit that the contest is unequal. Moreover, the idea that a fish can outwit its predator ("Mister Carp was too clever for me today") is not much of a face-saver, in my opinion, and I am always surprised when people resort to it. But what really astounds me in this "Fish Have Rights" business is that any sane person, looking around at the world's current brutalities, would put angling at the top of their activist agenda. Presumably they watch the news from Bosnia with their mouths open and their eyes all glassy, making little occasional "Pup!" noises with their lips.

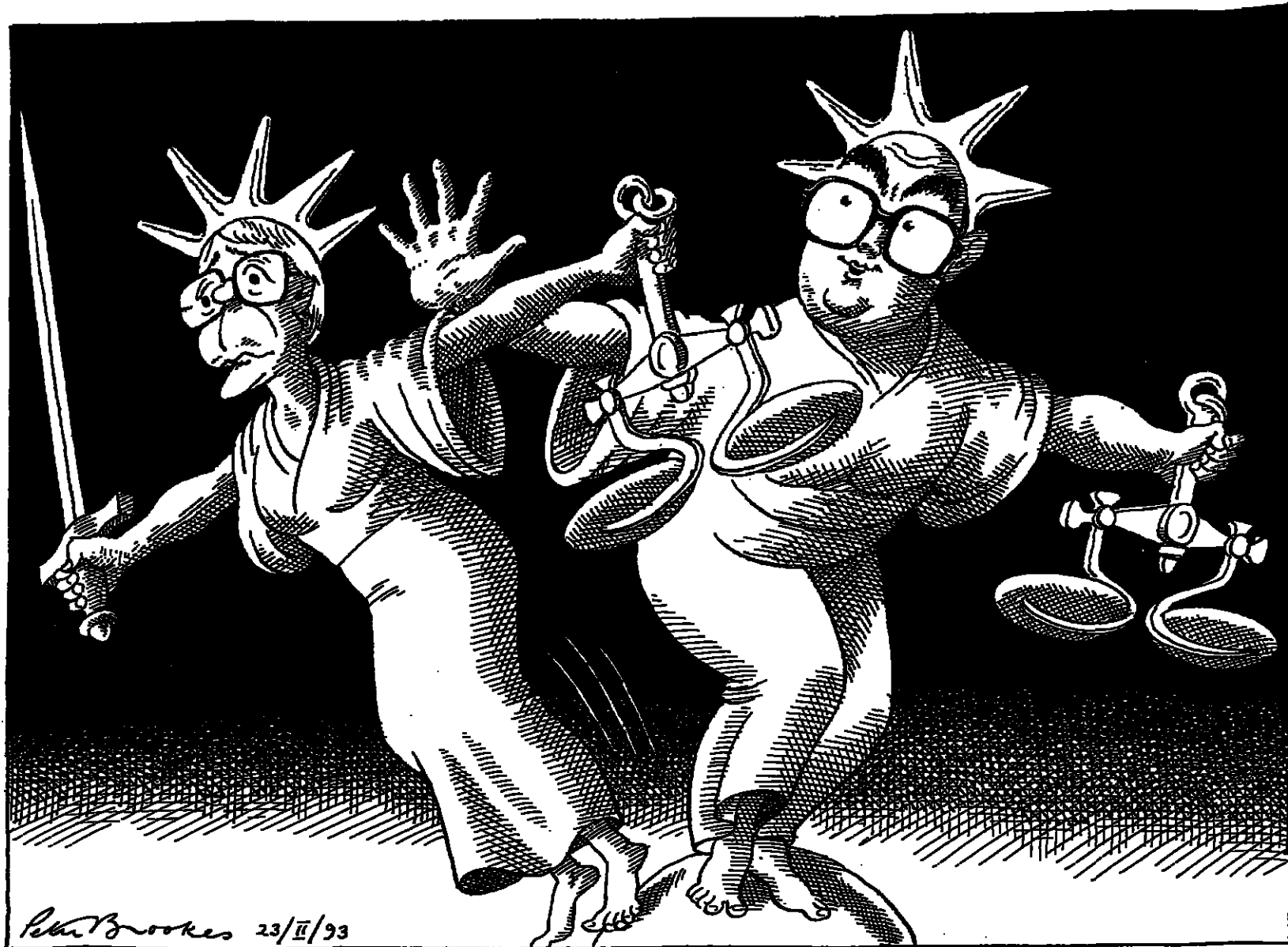
What it really boils down to, however, is that I just can't imagine the emotional dynamic involved in wanting to sabotage an angler. How do they get their dander up (especially once they're encased in a wet-suit)? Whereas the fox-hunt seems to have been designed in every detail to invite aggressive response (the horn the horn), I don't see how anyone could work himself into a lather about a bloke with a flask of tea in a fine drizzle being willingly outsmarted by a fish. It doesn't add up. It's like attacking a person for quietly reading a magazine.

"Look at him doing that! Ooh, that really makes me mad!" The drizzle scenario is like a red rag to a bull, apparently. Which is strange, of course, because in terms of unacceptable bloodsports, a red rag to a bull is really nothing like this at all.

Further evidence that Rushdie's luck is turning is news that a rare first-edition of *The Satanic Verses*, quarterbound in goats' skin, was sold last week for £500. Oddly perhaps, this is less than the same edition fetched when it was first published, says Tony Sillem, a London modern first-edition dealer. "When the *fatwa* came out we had a lot of orders for the book. I would not advise buying it as an investment, however. If you collect the most fashionable author there is no guarantee that there will be interest in the future."

Twin din

TWO musical rebels, the violinist Nigel Kennedy and the



THE PARTIES OF LAW AND ORDER

The bloody imperative

What is it that has driven men, from Xenophon's army onwards, to take up arms in foreign wars far from home?

British mercenaries killed in Bosnia? Their tragedy might have been avoided if they had known about Colonel Robert Denard (born Gilbert Bourgeois). This gallant — well, fairly gallant — officer has for the last three years been living quietly in Pretoria, though before that he had been living very noisily indeed in all sorts of places. Not long ago, he recently returned to his native France, where he was immediately arrested; at least two murder charges were waiting, together with a separate five-year prison sentence. It is not at all certain, though, that he will find himself in jail for the rest of his life, and quite likely that he will be able to carry out his long-awaited wish to "go home to Bordeaux to live quietly with my family", without any tiresome court-room appearances or even visits from the *flics*. For the gallant colonel knows where the bodies are buried, and so he should, considering that he buried a good number of them himself.

Colonel Denard is, or was, one of that strange by-blow of fighting men: the mercenary. For 30 years he followed his calling up and down Africa, turning his hand — doubtless a steady one when it was on the trigger — to toppling this ruler here, defending that claimant there, anon knocking off a pretender or two, then promoting a likely client, pushing over a few tiny nations, heedless of the fact that he rarely had time to discover their names.

Sometimes, he found himself fighting against other mercenaries; it presumably didn't matter, and indeed if there were a Mercenary's Code it would surely have had as its first precept "Thou shalt not demand the name, nature or necessity of thy customers, but thou wouldst do well to insist on being paid in gold."

Remember Moise Tsombe? Few can, I imagine, but he was the African chieftain who, when the Belgians cut and ran from the Congo (after practising a good many decades of some of the vilest atrocities in history), set up his own doll's tea-party and called it Katanga. He needed troops and commanders, and he found his soldier-of-fortune in Colonel Denard, who assembled an army and led it. I think Colonel Denard's intervention was the first of what turned out to be a host of these leaders and followers: at some times Africa was practically covered by them, and from time to time they found themselves in very unpleasant prisons for very many years.

I am unable to believe that they did it

only, or even mainly, for money. The wise precept, above, was all very well, but the mercenaries were frequently dithered out of their contracts, and in any case they must have understood that they were fighting, in the most emphatic meaning of the phrase, on a no-win, no-pay basis. (No-win added another hazard: losing a battle and being captured usually meant a cut throat.) But if they were not really fighting for money, what were they doing, thousands of miles from their homes, marching under burning skies and treading burning sands, usually thirsty and frequently hungry as well? It could

it would be to pause in shooting their enemies (equally hairy, small and very far from being the glass of fashion and the mould of form) and turn their motley arsenal on the invigilators. It was not ever thus. For many centuries, the mercenary was, if not a regular hero, a familiar and indispensable figure. Indispensable indeed: many a state had too few soldiers to call upon, and had to rely on hired guns, with all the danger of a change of master by the mercenaries in the middle of the battle.

Wise princes made sure that they had their own *corps d'élite*, which could rein in the hired men and keep them on the right side, but that still depended on the money and the likelihood of getting it — Colonel Denard's problem had a long pedigree.

Bernard Levin

Three specially notable bands of mercenaries have been distinguished in history. The Landsknechts were renowned for their discipline as well as their fighting spirit; even having taken a town, it seems, they did not pillage it. Then there was The King's German Legion, which fought for Britain throughout the first two decades of the 19th century; they must have been at Waterloo.

The Swiss, blast their eternal smugness (and blast them the more for their ability to come up with success when others are failing right and left) have the greatest reputation as disciplined and successful mercenaries. They had proved themselves in their own battles, and all Europe wanted their services. France was usually first in the queue. You surely remember that Shaw's infuriatingly matter-of-fact hero, Bluntschli, was a Swiss, and plainly a soldier-of-fortune; the battle that starts the play is very far from Switzerland.

But today the very noun has a disdained ring, and it has spread the disdain into an adjective: "mercenary" means miserly, money-grabbing, fortune achieved not so much by criminal means but by methods decent people

would not stoop to, however legal. But then I turn yet again to my most-loved book from antiquity, and read again, and wonder again, at that glorious anabasis, and I salute my most-loved figure from antiquity too, who is the author as well as the hero of the book. (Apart from anything else, I have never read, or heard of, a book which is almost entirely about the heroic exploits of the author, yet is truly modest throughout.)

This is a book about 10,000 mercenaries, and no one who has read the book will ever again use the word pejoratively. There they are, the Ten Thousand, having distinguished themselves splendidly at the Battle of Cunaxa, when news comes that the reason they are there has vanished. If you go into battle solely to fight for a king, and the king is killed in the battle, what do you do? There is only one thing you can do; go home. But if you are a thousand miles from home, then what do you do? (And what do you do, more particularly, when by dreadful treachery most of your commanders have been killed?)

You look round; an officer of no great rank, with no great exploits to his name, has just coughed behind his hand. He is called Xenophon: to the end of all history his name will be in it. Thirty years old, he tells the army that if they will trust him and follow him, he will lead them back to their homes and wives. And he does precisely that. There is surely no more moving moment in war or peace than the cry that resounded along the great file of returning Greek mercenary soldiers: "The sea, the sea!" For when they saw the sea, they knew that although they still had many miles and days to go, they recognised familiar landmarks, and knew that they were saved.

I do not know whether Colonel Denard is familiar with Xenophon: certainly, he should get a French translation, in case he is after all imprisoned and needs reading-matter. He might as well, while he is about it, learn English, so that he can read Housman's "Epitaph on an Army of Mercenaries":

These, in the day when heaven was falling,
The hour when earth's foundations fled,
Followed their mercenary calling
And took their wages and are dead.
Their shoulders held the sky suspended;
They stood, and earth's foundations stay;
What God abandoned, these defended,
And saved the sum of things for pay.

A way to end our gloom

Woodrow Wyatt on the benefits of National Service

The rot started with Harold Macmillan whose air of defeatism, inevitable decline and decadence permeated all he did. Despite his own gallant first world war service, in search of votes he ended the two-year National Service for over-18s. Attlee or Churchill would never have done it. They knew the value of instilling in the young a sense of service to the community. With its total sweep National Service equalised all, whatever their social background. It gave an understanding of who the other half really were, how they thought and why, eroding class barriers and misconceptions in a broad camaraderie.

Then came the ascendancy of left-wing education authorities and teachers. Discipline was out. Pupils were encouraged, unchecked, to do their own thing. The further away from memories of National Service they were the less parents exercised control, thinking it against the ethos of the times. Single-parent families grew in numbers, supported by social security benefits and the belief that a father in the home was unnecessary. The rise in crime was increasingly blamed on the alleged deprivation of the underprivileged, a view enthusiastically espoused by the church fumbling in the minefields of an imaginary new morality. Society, and particularly the government, were held responsible for lager louts, football hooligans, and car theft by the young, so often leading to the death of themselves and others. We didn't "care" enough, though the country was expensively thronged with "caring" social workers.

I wrote repeatedly in the *News of the World* and *The Times* (in detail on January 21, 1983) that the most effective way of restoring individual pride and the awareness that we owe a duty, not merely to ourselves but to others, was the reintroduction of National Service. Opinion polls agreed by decisive majorities. But I could not convince even Mrs Thatcher, who agreed in principle but thought it too hot a potato. The generals, too, were always difficult, worried about deploying too many valuable, ready-to-fight NCOs into training conscripts. But there are many older retired NCOs, and officers, who could do the simple job of elementary training and implementing

clergyman John Donne's "No man is an island, entire of itself." Yesterday's *Daily Telegraph* Gallup poll dwelt on the loss of national pride and hope in the future over the last 20 to 30 years. One answer stood out from the gloom: 84 per cent still have deep pride and confidence in the armed forces, respecting them far above lawyers, Parliament, the church, the press, the civil service, the education system. The latter groups, especially the press, continue to fall sharply in public esteem.

Italian politicians are corrupt but they have National Service. Women and the elderly are generally less afraid to go out of doors after dark; likewise in other continental countries. Understandably we are deeply concerned about unemployment reaching over three million — as it did nine years ago. The extent of unemployment is similar in most of the EC, but in our comparisons we omit a salient fact: their unemployment figures would be much higher without National Service. Reintroducing it here would automatically remove nearly a million young males from the unemployment register, taking us to an emotionally more tolerable and practically more manageable figure.

Re-equipping disused barracks and building new ones would be a blessing for the underemployed construction industry. There would be many other spin-offs, further reducing unemployment. Value for money would also be reflected in the gradual improvement of national morale as the high standards of the armed forces in meaningful love of country filtered through once more. Nor would the cutting edge be impaired of our internationally admired fighting forces, whose brilliance in emergencies brings trade in its wake.

Dutch courage

SALMAN Rushdie may not have known it as he pilloried Labour over the weekend for its "four years of silence" and called for a meeting with John Major, but support was at hand. Support that is, in the form of 146 Dutch MPs who have signed a letter extending an official welcome to Rushdie and calling on The Netherlands' coalition government to condemn Iran.

The trigger for the move, according to Frans Weisglas, foreign affairs spokesman for the Liberal party, the "main opposition party", is "Iran's renewal of the death sentence." "We hoped that it would go away but now they have repeated it we want to make a stand."

Weisglas, who like many of the author's supporters has not read *The Satanic Verses*, says: "Whatever he writes should not be a reason for the Iranian government to do what it has done to him." But he is delighted by John Major's decision to meet the author.

So too is Carmel Bedford,

secretary to the Rushdie Defence Committee, who also "really welcomes" the Dutch move. The Netherlands is, she says, the third country to have made such a stand, after Britain and the Nordic Council, an advisory body representing Scandinavian countries.

Further evidence that Rushdie's luck is turning is news that a rare first-edition of *The Satanic Verses*, quarterbound in goats' skin, was sold last week for £500. Oddly perhaps, this is less than the same edition fetched when it was first published, says Tony Sillem, a London modern first-edition dealer. "When the *fatwa* came out we had a lot of orders for the book. I would not advise buying it as an investment, however. If you collect the most fashionable author there is no guarantee that there will be interest in the future."

Twin din

TWO musical rebels, the violinist Nigel Kennedy and the

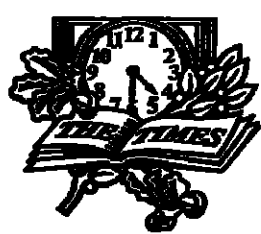
composer Dave Heath, are joining forces. Kennedy will play in the premiere of Heath's *Alone at the Frontier* at Minneapolis next month.

Even by the standards of these two celebrated populists of classical music, the production, featuring the Minnesota Orchestra, will be unconventional. Heath, interviewed in the next issue of *BBC Music Magazine*, admits: "It's going to be like a rock show."

Heath's appeal is far from universal. In 1984 a reviewer wrote in *The Times*: "Libel laws prevent discussion of David Heath's music."

Kennedy will abandon the stage for a leisurely walk through the audience. There will be a rap choir, which does not sing. "There are no words," Heath says. "They will create a drumbox effect as well as clapping and screaming."

Industrial percussion will be provided by a huge iron girder and a crasher — two springy plates of sheet metal. Heath says: "They sound like a cross between an electronic snare and a whip." At one stage, he says, "the orchestra will stand and clap." Just in case the audience does not?



DIARY

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weekend. Moss, who retired from racing in 1962, test drove about a dozen of the models during his days as a contributor to *Harpers & Queen*. He retired from the grand prix circuit in 1962 three years after Lamborghini opened his factory. But Moss, winner of more than 30 grand prix and Driver of the Year in 1961, was happier behind the wheel of a Mini Cooper than a Lamborghini. "I have driven a lot of them," he says. "But Lamborghini's achievement was to have his car even considered in the same breath as the Ferrari."

Moss was never one for the luxury car. "They had a classy look. I liked them but with limitations. I would never have dreamed of buying one. Anyway, in those days I did not even own a car. I lived on my scooter."

Punch line

THERE can be little, in today's politically correct climate, that makes publishers more nervous than the prospect of publishing an autobiography by Britain's "bluest" comic, Jim Davidson. In order to allay their fears, therefore, Davidson's agent, Robert Kirby, last week invited interested publishers to meet Davidson in person in the Reform Club in Pall Mall. The comic has been a member since last year.

Kirby felt that meeting Davidson face-to-face would convince publishers that he "really is the renaissance gentleman." He is only too aware that "Jim is the voice of the working classes in this country. The show that he takes around the clubs is blue and raucous and he is accused of racism." Davidson and Kirby mingled with the publishers, nibbling canapés and sipping champagne. Davidson's jokes, however, were less successful. Kirby admits: "He was slightly out of sorts. It was a culture and sense of humour clash. His one-liners received a frosty welcome. "Nevertheless everyone came up afterwards and said

Woolf takes the silk route

Episode, the fashion chain best known for offering washed silk with everything, is being relaunched as Susan Woolf, after the woman who has run the business for the last three years. Episode closed the doors of its 15 stores for the last time on Saturday. They reopen tomorrow under the new banner, which acknowledges the heightened role of Woolf (right), Episode's former managing director. She will now also design and merchandise the collections.

"The clothes will still be mostly made from natural fibres, but will be manufactured in the UK to respond to the quirks of fashion," she says. The length? "We are tearing our hair out."

They were better for meeting him."



● An Indian restaurant in Stockport has been currying favour with the town's football team by naming meals on the menu after the club. Dish of the day is Kevin Francis, a meat curry, after the team's leading scorer. Chairman, Brendan Elwood, is a vegetable starter, and Danny Bergara, the manager, is a curry with lentils. Diners presumably show their appreciation with a Paul Gascoigne.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

David Young reports on the government's new campaign to persuade each of us to take responsibility for cost-efficient energy-saving

Millions going up in smoke

The fact that his office is in the Whitehall labyrinth which has been dubbed the most energy-inefficient building in the government's property portfolio has done little to dent Lord Strathclyde's enthusiasm for promoting energy efficiency.

As the environment minister responsible for the government's energy efficiency campaign, he is tackling his job with vigour and good humour.

"Look! I've switched the lights off," he says before going on to explain how he aims to persuade the nation that energy efficiency can help us all save money — and help save the planet.

Removal of responsibility for energy efficiency from the old energy department has already been welcomed by those who previously scorned the government's energy efficiency efforts. The energy department was always dominated by those concerned with the supply of energy, not with saving it.

The environment department's global atmosphere division, which has been investigating the greenhouse effect, had always accepted that energy conservation is among the quickest and cheapest solutions to the problem. Furthermore, the department has always been responsible for national building regulations, which offer the opportunity to make many energy-saving

developments mandatory, and widespread. The launch of the current campaign under the slogan "Helping the Earth Begins at Home" has already struck a chord with the public, especially schoolchildren, who are incorporating energy efficiency into their studies.

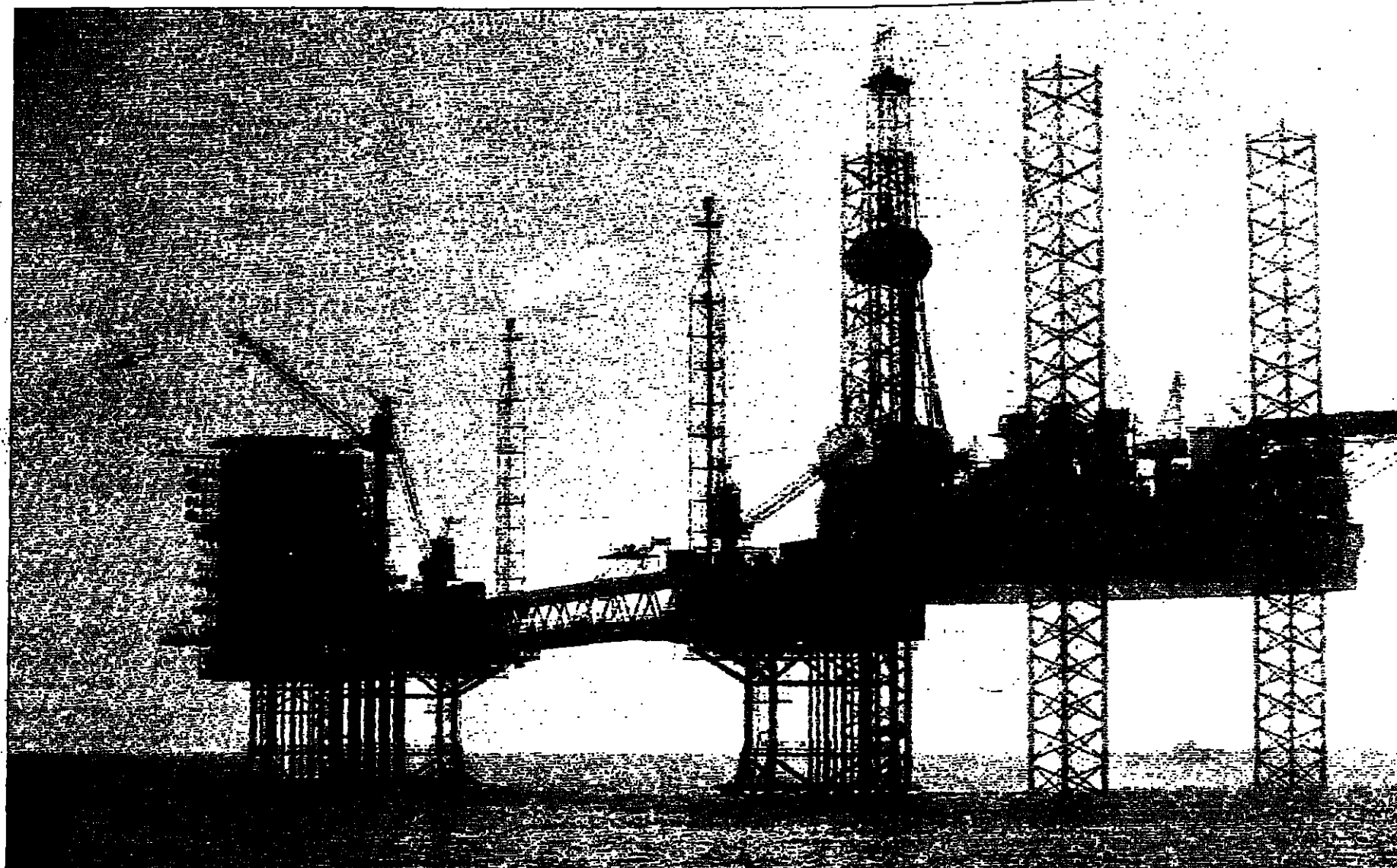
"It is a circle of virtue," says Lord Strathclyde. "The more energy people save, the more money they save and the more of the earth's resources are preserved. Our task is not to force energy-saving measures upon people, but to help them find out what they can achieve for themselves. We have to provide the information needed and give help so that the lessons already learnt can be passed on."



'Saving energy saves money and the earth's resources'
Lord Strathclyde

help and advice can be given to domestic users and companies.

"One company I recently visited spent £7,000 on a campaign to make its workers aware that equipment should not be switched on until it is to be used, and should be switched off when the job has been completed. The money spent resulted in an energy saving of £1 million," says Lord Strathclyde.



Fresher air: potential energy-savings in Britain could be equivalent to the annual revenue from North Sea oil and gas, with additional benefits to the planet

The government itself is taking these lessons on board, and a new building is now at the planning stage which will incorporate all current energy-savings measures. "This will enable us to prove to anyone that the measures we promote really work," says the minister. "We can make sure that in areas such as building regulations energy efficiency can be outlawed, but most energy-efficient measures have to be adopted voluntarily, and consumers must be constantly made aware that it is their money that they are wasting and their planet they are damaging."

Dr Colin Myerscough, the director for industry and general policy at the Energy Efficiency Office (EEO), says: "Increasing energy efficiency is first and foremost a

matter of encouraging individual responsibility for decisions about energy consumption. Progress has been relatively steady in the UK over the past hundred years, and there is plenty of scope for this to continue. The EEO believes there is now potential for saving some 20 per cent of the energy consumed in the UK, using proven technology and cost-effective measures with a payback of three to five years or less. Doubtless new technology will continue to provide the means to further savings."

Energy consumption in the UK costs about £1,000 per head of population, and Dr Myerscough argues that there is scope for cutting that bill by £200 a head, a total of £10 billion, a sum equal to that generated each year by the North

Sea oil and gas industry. He says: "On top of that there is increasing awareness of the need to contain emissions of greenhouse gases and contain the use of fossil fuels. The government strategy for limiting carbon dioxide emissions gives priority to energy efficiency measures."

But the government does not just leave it to individuals and companies to intervene, even where the measures that individuals and companies can take are so manifestly in their own interest. This is because in many cases market mechanisms and self-interest have not yet brought about anything like the changes that rational economic

"Loft and tank insulation has reached 90 per cent of the market, but it has taken 30 years, despite the help of government grants, and even though the payback period is as little as two years," Dr Myerscough says. "Condensing boilers and energy-efficient lights have made barely any progress, though the payback is normally under five years."

The EEO has found that there are two main reasons for this. The first is simply lack of knowledge and information, and the second is the low priority companies give to allocating capital investment for energy efficiency. Investors appear to require very much higher rates of return from investment in energy efficiency than from investments in energy supply. EEO research has

also found that poorer individuals and smaller organisations give much less priority to energy efficiency. So a vicious circle is created, rather than the "circle of virtue" described by Lord Strathclyde.

Dr Myerscough adds: "Given a continuation and intensification of present efforts, the UK and other advanced industrial countries can look forward in the 21st century to a continuation of the trend of many years, which is that their economies will get more out of less."

"The standard of living of the people can improve without making increasing demands on the world's resources or environment. There is no secret about how to achieve this, but it does require appropriate political conditions and a lot of effort."



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INVESTELECTRIC

Time to put the lid on wasted energy

Andrew Warren doubts whether proposed new energy-saving building regulations are sufficiently stringent

Half of all the energy consumed in Britain is used in homes and offices. Government scientists estimate that at least 40 per cent of that is wasted. So there is every justification for concentrating policy measures upon trying to reduce fuel bills.

Much the most effective way to make a building energy efficient is to ensure that energy saving measures are built into the design. It is always more time-consuming and expensive to upgrade an occupied building. This is one of the reasons why for the past 20 years the government has required certain minimum standards of energy efficiency in every new building. The standards have gradually been upgraded—and later on this year a new set of building regulations on the conservation of fuel and power will be laid before Parliament.

These new regulations are intended to improve existing minimum standards by about 25 per cent. Certainly, judging from the formal consultation document which the government has just issued, that target can be achieved. The corresponding reduction in annual emissions of carbon dioxide (the main gas responsible for the threat of global warming, emitted mainly by fossil fuel burning)

would be about 500,000 tonnes if the new proposals work as they are intended to.

A number of these proposals are extremely welcome. It makes sense to require the incorporation of heating controls and energy efficient lighting into offices. It is logical to make the installation of double glazing mandatory, along with various draught-proofing requirements. Changes in the calculations of "U" values (which measure the rate of heat loss) to take account of "cold bridges" and heat loss through mortar joints, are long overdue. The attempt to steer buildings away from air-conditioning systems will help to save energy and extending the regulations to cover big alterations or conversion of buildings is sensible.

That is the good news. But is this the right objective? Do these regulations outline the very best that can reasonably be done to make new homes and offices energy-efficient? The chairman of the Royal Institute of British Architects' committee on energy and the environment,

Professor Peter Smith, is scathing: "Even allowing for differences in climate, our existing building standards are way below those in comparable northern European countries. Even with these changes, we will still be wasting vast amounts of energy unnecessarily," he says.

The real bone of contention lies with insulation standards. The previous standards, set in 1990, required minimum "U" values for each part of the built fabric. To everyone's amazement, the consultation document does not propose to upgrade these recommended standards.

They will remain, as environmentalist Jonathon Porritt acidly points out, about the same as those in operation in Sweden in the 1930s. Indeed, it would now be possible to construct a building with wall standards less efficient than those required a decade ago.

On paper, though, there has been one important reform. When the last set of regulations were going through Parliament, an in-

sidious trade-off permitting lower standards of insulation if double glazing was installed was inserted at the last minute. This trade-off has meant that builders can avoid meeting the original standards for walls. As a result, the energy consumption of a typical post-1990 house is only 6.3 per cent lower than a typical house built before 1990.

But outlawing the infamous trade-off is insufficient. The buildings we construct in this decade will be here for generations to come, so the influence of the regulations will extend well into the next century.

There is absolutely no economic, safety or environmental reason why the minimum "U" values of roofs, floors and walls should not be upgraded. Already, many builders do far better.

Failure to take every opportunity to ensure higher energy conservation standards will have two consequences. It will make it more difficult for the UK to meet its international obligations to cut carbon dioxide emissions. It will also mean that, within a few years, we will have to "retro-insulate" relatively new buildings at vast cost. How much better to bite the building regulations bullet now.

● The author is director of the Association for the Conservation of Energy



Lynn Parkins works on a Building Research Establishment house, where new designs are tested

Running a pub with no draughts

STEPHEN MARKESON



Making savings: Brian Stafford, licensee of the Blue Lias

One of Britain's largest energy users — the brewing industry — has embraced energy-saving with such enthusiasm that it has cut its fuel bill dramatically. Nowadays, more energy is used in the nation's pubs than in the breweries. The brewers spend a third less on energy per pint than they did in the mid-1970s, although fuel bills still total £50 million annually.

However, what has been saved in the breweries has not kept pace with increased consumption in pubs and more catering equipment, air-conditioning, cold cabinets, video game machines and juke boxes are adding to power consumption. Gas and electricity boards receive a total of £80 million a year from the nation's publicans. Research has shown that even simple systems installed at the pub can make dramatic savings.

Brian Stafford, the licensee of the picturesque Blue Lias in Stockton, Warwickshire, has recently been passing on the energy saving message to his colleagues. He took over the pub, which in 1983 was derelict, and started rebuilding, investing the profits from a modern pub he had been running since 1975.

"It was then I started thinking about saving money," Mr Stafford says. "After all, I was spending enough of it. What could I do to save heat? You insulate your loft, I thought, so why not insulate the whole of the first floor with fibreglass padding? Not only did it keep heat in, it prevented smoke and noise entering the upstairs flat."

"In addition I fitted time clocks to water heaters and installed central heating on the Economy Seven rate at

evening and weekend tariff." The money he saved has been ploughed back into his business and Mr Stafford took on another pub near Leamington Spa in 1989. His brewer, Whitbread, carried out an energy survey before rebuilding work started.

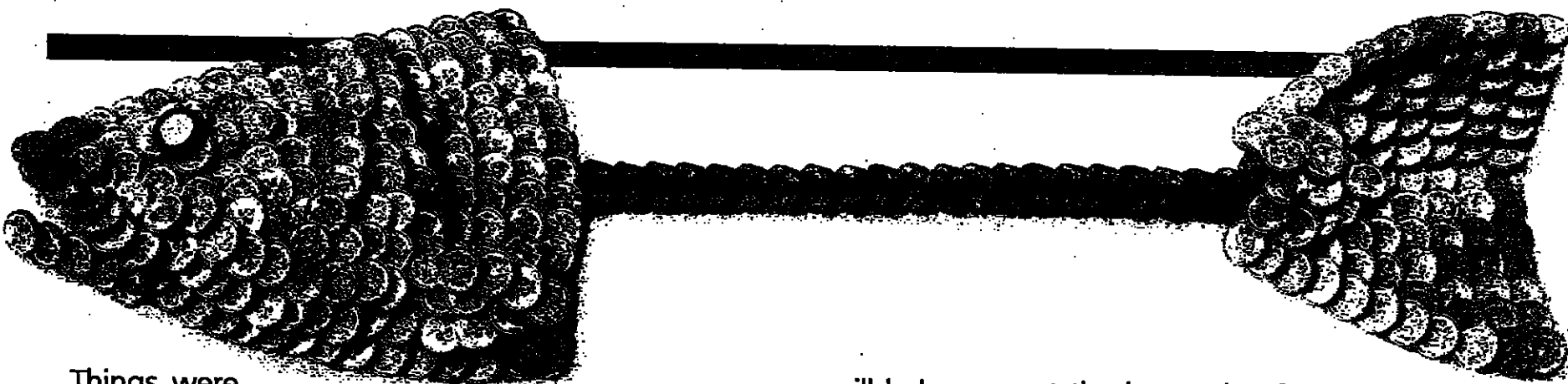
He says: "My eyes were opened to a range of means of saving energy, including lower energy lighting, heating controls, ventilation and water saving. Water saving and low energy lighting were quoted as paying for themselves within two years and so I had to consider them. I previously had thought low energy lighting was not for me."

"However, I was prepared to look and a firm from Manchester came down with a display board made up of different coloured shades. When it was plugged in I was sold. Ten watts instead of 60 watts, five watts instead of 40 watts. The savings were enormous and the ambience was even enhanced."

Richard Martin, the chairman of the Brewers' Society, says: "Through an Energy Efficiency Office funded project it has been estimated that 25 per cent of the energy bill of the public house can be saved by the introduction of relatively simple measures. The investment costs can be recovered in one to two years. "However, these measures are not yet automatically incorporated into pub refurbishments. Most resources are directed towards measures which have a more immediate effect on the profit of an outlet. There needs to be a vigorous promotion of energy efficiency measures at the design stage."

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LONDON
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Locked in a neck and neck race

The rivalry between electricity and gas suppliers steams on, writes Bill Cater

In the far-off innocent days when gas and electricity were both newly nationalised, some customers thought that now both belonged to us, they might at last get really neutral advice from the showrooms that had long growled at one another across the high street.

"No," electricity demonstrators might advise them. "we're fine for power, but gas is a lot cheaper for heating." Or the young man from Gas would say, "Well, for what you want, gas is a bit cheaper to run but much more expensive to install so why not go for the other lot this time?" The rivals might even get together in one showroom.

But a desire to beat the Other Lot is as common among nationalised administrators as among shopkeepers. The rivalry went on; and it is still thriving between the privatised utilities in our age of energy awareness. Consumer bodies mercilessly analyse rival claims. On a good day, an Electricity man will admit that as a fuel gas is cheaper, but add: "That's why we have to be cleverer in applying electricity." A well-insulated house needs much less heating, for example, making the unit cost of fuel less important.

It was enlightened self-interest

for electricity boards to encourage customers to put insulation in lofts and foam in cavity walls, as Southern Electric's energy marketing manager Alan Odey admits. "We have had our own cavity-wall insulation business since the 1960s. In the mid-Seventies — energy crisis time — it was running at £1 million a year; it is about half that now."

He believes that advertising pays off in making homes more fuel-efficient. Southern Electric pushed its insulation schemes, and made them very easy for customers to take on. "Nationally, about 22 per cent of houses have cavity-wall insulation; in our Southern area it is 30 per cent."

But insulation is a game anyone can play, and advice and help over making buildings energy-efficient pours out of British Gas just as it does from the electricity companies.

Through it all, the rivalry goes on. If using electricity directly for heating is more expensive than using gas, how about the heat pump, which can give out the heat of three units of energy for every unit that is put in. Controlled ventilation through a heat-exchanger extracts heat from the outgoing stale air to warm the incoming fresh air. It looks like a winner for electricity because it is



Filling the gap: following advice from both the big power industries, a bricklayer installs dry cavity wall insulation

driven by a small electric motor.

There are no small gas motors. In some schemes for upgrading older buildings, electricity companies demonstrate different heating methods — heat pumps, storage heaters, small panel heaters. Even, says one board, with a nothing-up-or-sleeve air, even gas.

Gas has its own triumphs: offering the big customer a chance to generate his own gas-powered electricity: schemes for Combined Heat

and Power, CHP, where a gas-fuelled engine drives a generator, electricity from which supplies a factory, hospital, leisure centre or office block, while the waste heat from the engine warms buildings and provides hot water. And if the gas customer is producing more electricity than he needs, he can sell some to the electricity companies.

Rubbing salt into its rivals' wounds, British Gas last year pointed out how much more effi-

cient such a system is, with 80 per cent utilisation of the energy in the fuel, as against 35 per cent from a central coal-fired power station.

The political argument about using coal to generate electricity is one that British Gas is happy to be out of: gas gave up using coal as its source years ago.

Meanwhile electricity companies woo local councils, as big property-owners, for the business of keeping council flats warm. Even while they

do it, gas and CHP are creeping up behind them.

While London Electricity has been demonstrating the impressive improvements it can bring to Camden's tower blocks, the borough is considering plans for a joint enterprise with a company called Citigen for a group of CHP generating plants to provide cheaper power and heat for whole districts of Camden. And who owns Citigen? Among others, British Gas.

Drivers go green Fuel guzzlers lose favour as prices bite

INCREASED prices at the pumps and rising concern at the effects of pollution on the environment has led to a fundamental change in the way motorists drive, writes David Young.

Roy Reynolds, the managing director of Shell UK Oil, says: "As environmental concerns develop, it will become increasingly important that motorists understand the impact of their activities on the world we live in and what they can do to minimise the damage they cause."

To find out exactly what motorists think about energy efficiency, Gallup conducted a detailed survey for Shell to find out how aware drivers are that advanced technology in fuels can save them money.

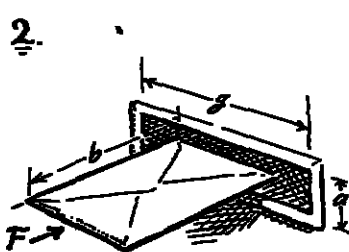
The research showed that fuel efficiency is of prime concern to most car drivers and HGV operators. When it comes to selecting a new car, 27 per cent said that fuel efficiency was the main consideration, 21 per cent said maintenance costs were of prime importance, 20 per cent said they put the manufacturer's reputation first, and 10 per cent based their choice on exhaust emission levels.

The fuel companies and motor manufacturers are therefore anxious to make sure that their products appeal to the energy-conscious driver.

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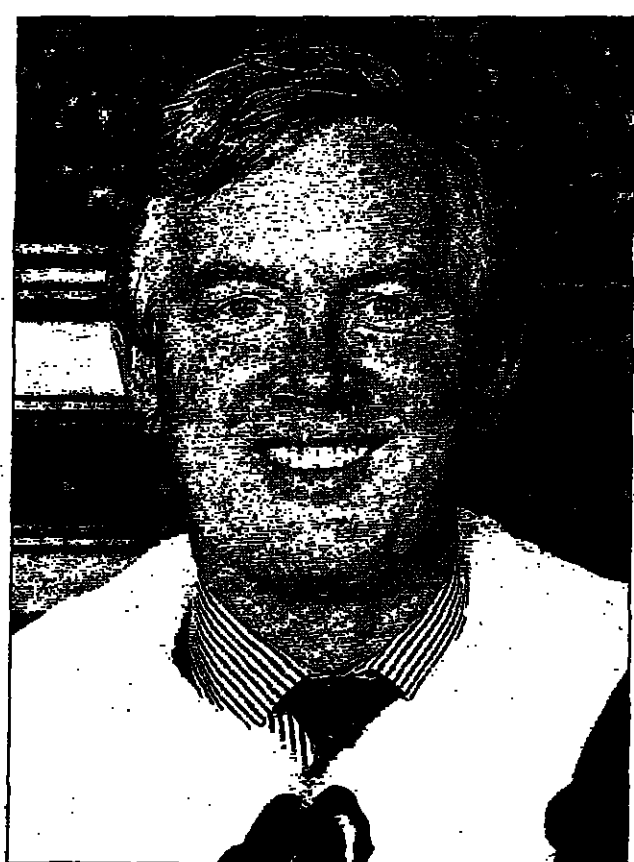
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Energy Efficiency
THE ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTION

Independent trust takes new tack

Lord Moore hopes the 'E' factor will make energy savings more profitable



Chairman: Lord Moore heads the Energy Saving Trust

British Gas and the electricity supply companies have always taken considerable pride in being at the forefront in promoting energy efficiency, with British Gas alone spending £100 million in the past five years on energy saving measures.

However, the main thrust of energy savings by the utilities will now be channelled through the Energy Saving Trust. It was set up by the government last year and has a first year budget of £6 million paid by British Gas from an "E" factor added to the formula that controls the British Gas tariff structure.

The "E" factor means that money spent by the utilities in promoting energy saving, and in developing energy saving systems for their clients, can be passed through to the customer in the same way that any increases in gas supplies from the North Sea can be passed on — provided the industry's regulator approves.

The "E" factor means that energy saving measures can be as potentially profitable for the utilities as measures which in the past increased consumption. Work is now going on to develop an "E" factor for the electricity supply industry.

The trust will develop and manage schemes to promote the efficient use of energy and the first year's pilot programme covers low-income households, replacement of heating systems and small-scale combined heat and power projects.

Under the chairmanship of Lord Moore of Lower Marsh, the trust has been set up to help meet the target dates for stabilisation of carbon dioxide emissions at 1990 levels in the year 2000. Originally that date was set for 2005 and the change of date was largely due to the anticipated effectiveness of the trust without the need for the introduction of an EC proposed carbon tax.

Lord Moore says: "I am confident the Energy Saving Trust will provide a major stimulus to creating new initiatives in promoting energy efficiency to the public."

Lord Moore is well qualified to head the new trust, having started his ministerial career as a junior minister in the old Department of Energy with responsibility for energy efficiency.

He has appointed to the board Dr Dickson Mabon, the Labour energy minister from 1976 to 1979 who, as a

minister in the Scottish Office in the 1960s, was responsible for the Scottish power industry.

The impact of the new trust will be seen shortly. Among the initiatives planned by Lord Moore will be the promotion of new highly efficient gas condensing boilers for the domestic market and a pilot scheme of local information centres for domestic and small business consumers.

Inevitably, there will be a

... the pilot programme covers low-income households, replacement heating systems'

duplication by the trust of much of the work carried out by the Energy Efficiency Office and other energy conservation groups, but what will make the difference between it and many existing agencies is that it should have a high degree of financial independence.

The schemes which British Gas propose to introduce, and which quality, will have to be approved by OFGAS, the industry watchdog.

Greg McGregor, the OFGAS director of competition and tariffs, says: "The promotion of energy efficiency is based on the belief that as the 'fifth fuel', it brings with it significant environmental advantages and, although these are sometimes difficult to define with great precision, significant cost benefits through lower pollution."

The belief is based firmly on the concept of energy efficiency, as opposed to con-

servation, not only with the objective of eliminating the unnecessary use of gas but also accepting the increased use of gas in circumstances where substituting gas for other fuels brings about improved overall efficiency and where customers can enjoy increased levels of comfort for a given usage rather than choosing to use less gas."

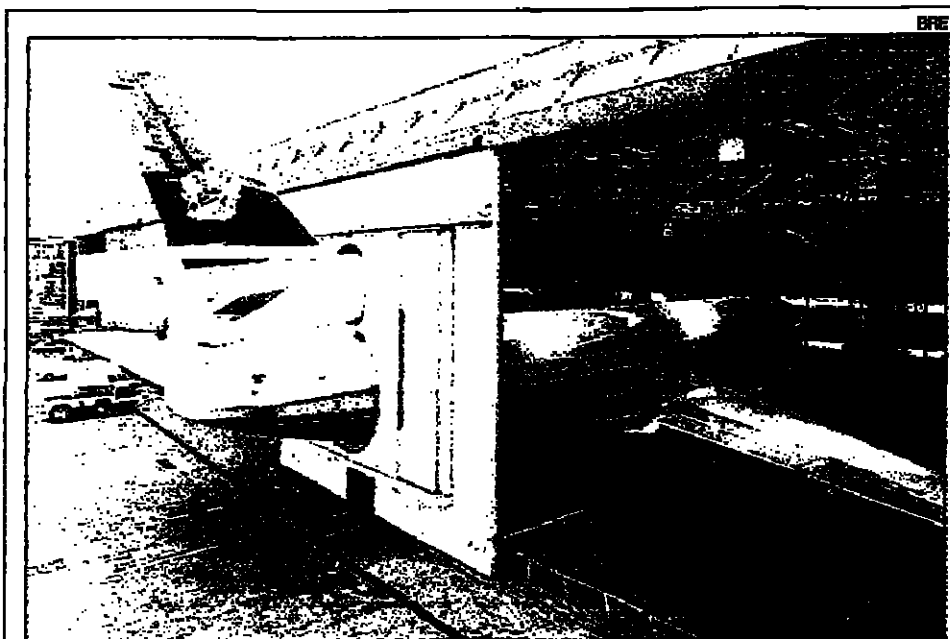
Mr McGregor says that the Energy Savings Trust will be in a position to see that the "E" factor investments are promoted in the most cost-effective way, ensuring that the direct commercial involvement of utilities in the supply and installation is not abused.

He says: "The trust will be responsible for letting contracts at arm's length, monitoring actual against estimated results and accounting for expenditure on a regular basis. The trust will also have the role of advising potential applicants on how best to formulate proposals and of stimulating thinking on possible new projects."

He says that the "E" factor system will benefit tariff customers because British Gas will be able to avoid buying new gas supplies, especially for expensive peak periods and shareholders through new marketing opportunities.

"E" factor expenditure "should not be viewed as some form of environmental levy imposed on customers," he says, "nor as back door taxation. It is an investment in energy efficiency, not some form of 'charitable endeavour'."

DAVID YOUNG



Special hangar doors at Gatwick airport stop heat escaping around large aircraft

Beating the heat could save £4 billion a year

Several government-backed organisations are looking at methods for reducing energy losses from buildings

The importance of promoting energy efficiency, both environmentally and economically, is underlined by Britain's energy bill, £52.5 billion in 1991.

The government's Energy Efficiency Office (EEO) is trying to cut the harmful effects and high cost of carbon dioxide emissions with the aid of the Building Research Establishment (BRE) at Watford, Hertfordshire.

In addition, the Energy Technology Support Unit (ETSU) at Hartwell does similar work for the EEO on the energy efficiency of industrial processes.

Figures for 1991 show

that more than 40 per cent of energy was used in buildings, giving rise to 50 per cent of UK carbon dioxide emissions." Dr Tony Birles, the head of the Watford unit, says.

"An energy-efficient building provides a specified indoor environment for minimum energy use. A 20 per cent energy saving accompanied by similar cuts in carbon dioxide emissions, is possible using established cost-effective measures.

In the building sector, this

saving is worth £4.3 billion per year," Dr Birles says. However, he said this was dependent on decisions taken by people in the building industry. All needed advice so their actions were more effective.

The Watford unit publishes energy efficiency information about housing, offices, factories, hospitals, hotels, and schools. The information is available to building professionals, developers, agents, builders, building owners, managers and tenants.

As well as new building projects, the programme looks at the refurbishment of buildings to higher standards of energy efficiency.

In one case, at Shireley Hospital in Hertfordshire, the replacement of an old boiler plant with modern condensing boilers saw the plant reach 84 to 92 per cent efficiency. This meant that the replacement cost was recovered in less than a year.

The Watford unit also works with the European Commission as part of the

OPET network. OPETs are organisations for the promotion of energy technologies.

Dr Paul Davidson, the manager of the OPET programme, said the network, which covers 40 organisations, promotes energy technologies within the community and outside its borders, particularly in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. "For the UK, this gives the benefit of the wider experience of successful energy savings techniques from across Europe," Dr Davidson says.

BIL MUSANNIF

● The author is head of marketing, BRECSU

David Young reports on a hotel which improved on a 20-year-old system and by doing so released 7,000 sq ft of valuable space

Tuned to the Ritz by remote control

The glass tower blocks on modern industrial parks are invariably energy efficient. Solar energy is collected in winter to supplement the heating system and in summer to add to the power requirements of the air conditioning system. In some cases latent heat from ornamental lakes is drawn out by heat pumps to add to the energy requirements of the building.

That is all very well in a modern office block, but there are also real energy savings to be made in older buildings where grandeur rather than energy efficiency was the architect's prime consideration.

The Ritz Hotel, in Piccadilly, is undoubtedly one of London's most elegant older buildings, but few of its clients are aware, that as they enjoy the comfort of their luxurious suites or the cuisine in the cool and airy dining room, that they are benefiting from one of the most modern energy management systems in Britain.

As the Ritz management planned its recent refurbishment, it looked at the energy needs of the hotel and called in AHS Emstar, an energy management company.

The Emstar consultant — the company has 900 specialist energy management staff in the United Kingdom — drew up plans to upgrade and refurbish the Ritz's elderly energy plans.

Out went three large boilers, to be replaced by four compact high-efficiency gas-fired units. A new air-cooling system was designed for the restaurant, and an electronic energy management system to control and monitor energy use was installed.

The boilers, which had been hissing away in the basement for more than 20 years, were removed without any interruption to the hotel's hot water supply system. Their removal also released 7,000 sq ft of valuable space. The project involved a step-by-step transfer, as one function after another was taken away from the old boilers and transferred to the new units.

The most complex part of the scheme involved the fitting of a cooling system in the restaurant.

The belle époque interior of the restaurant meant that a conventional air conditioning system could not be installed. The solution was to install fan coil units which provide heat or cold air into the wall from vents above the windows.

All the new equipment is connected to the AHS Emstar control system at Staines, so that energy consumption and room temperatures are remote controlled. It means that Ritz staff do not have to worry about the energy requirements.

The release of space by the new equipment meant that offices could be moved and converted into new luxury bedrooms. The control system also means that, during the day when the restaurant is predominantly used by businessmen, the temperature can be lowered and in the evening, when more lightly-dressed guests arrive, it can be raised.

Alan Miller, the chief engineer at the Ritz says: "Over the past few years the hotel has been restored to

its former glory. We realised that our energy system, which was old and inefficient, should also be modernised to ensure that our guests feel comfortable at all times. AHS Emstar replaced all our energy plant and installed a new, unobtrusive cooling system in the restaurant with absolutely no disruption to our guests."

However, Emstar has found that many British companies are still reluctant to follow the lead of the Ritz and adopt high technology energy saving equipment.

John Ashcroft, the company's managing director, says that a survey carried out by the company found that the lack of investment capital is shown as the main barrier and less than 10 per cent of UK companies are taking advantage of the services offered by contract energy management companies.

He says the resistance to energy investment is partly due to its traditionally low status as an overhead. However, the recession has forced cost-cutting in head office overheads and in labour. Now the focus is turning to energy savings to reduce costs without reducing service levels.

There are real savings to be made in older buildings



Change for the best: the Ritz Hotel in Piccadilly has upgraded and refurbished its energy system

Offices catch factories in dirty stakes

Heavy industry may have cleaned up its act since the 1970s, but commerce still has much to learn

In the carefree, cheap-fuel year of 1970, when nobody had heard of the greenhouse effect, Britain's really big users of energy — steelmakers, mineral processors, paper-makers and manufacturers of bulk chemicals — poured a vast quantity of carbon dioxide, the greenhouse gas, into the air. The amount would be expressed today as the equivalent of 56 million tonnes of carbon.

In contrast, commerce — offices and shops — produced only ten million tonnes. By 1980, the big industrial users had cut back to 39 million tonnes. And it was not, as it might be today, because there was less heavy industry. By 1990, their greenhouse gas figure was down again to 34 million tonnes. Steelmaking had become 12 per cent more energy efficient in those 20 years, blast furnaces were 9 per cent better.

But commerce, those nice clean shops and offices, had grown worse. Their contribution to the greenhouse effect was up to 14 million tonnes. For instance, the secretary who in 1970 was quite likely to be pounding a manual typewriter and taking a carbon copy, by 1980 had to have an electric typewriter, and by 1990 would be using a word-processor, with its own bubblejet or laser printer. And a photocopier. And a fax machine. And a personal computer, quite likely.

All this gadgetry takes in energy and gives out waste heat so much heat that the office needs air conditioning; fans, cooling systems, and warming systems — using more energy.

But some energy experts believe part of the problem is that the amount of energy used and money wasted can look too small, among a company's total costs, for senior management to bother about it.

In one office the energy bill was £13,500, the telephone bill £15,000 and the rent £200,000. Energy was wasted, but nobody would get excited about something that was less than the cost of telephone calls.

In another building there was a lot of waste from the hot water system, but it attracted no attention until someone calculated the waste in terms of bathwater. It was like giving every employee a free hot bath every day.

Terry Wyatt, the head of research for environmental consulting engineers Hoare Lea & Partners, believes that good design of commercial buildings can halve their energy consumption and eventually reduce it to one-sixth of the



In the frame: a student checks a double-glazed window

present average. "Office buildings which make appropriate use of natural lighting, fresh air and natural water sources can operate using half the energy of those with conventional mechanical and electrical engineering systems," he says.

For a long while developers went for the quickest financial return rather than long-term energy saving or a good office climate. He believes this is changing.

Smarter users, and new EC regulations, are forcing higher standards. "With their emphasis on user comfort, and long-term benefits, alternative systems are set to become more affordable," he says. One of these is displacement ventilation. Conventional systems push air in, around and out of buildings with powerful

fans, which pass the air over heating or cooling coils. Displacement ventilation introduces a gentle continuous supply of fresh air a couple of degrees below room temperature.

The warmer air rises, dis-

placed by the cooler fresh air, and on its way out of the building can be used to warm the incoming air. In summer when cooling is needed, cool night-time air is passed through floor voids to cool the building; alternatively, Hoare Lea has developed a "chilled beam" system, where slightly chilled water is passed through ceiling beams to cool the area.

Where conventional cooling methods used water at 4°C, the chilled beam system is much less cold — 14°C, which cuts the amount of electricity needed by half. Mr Wyatt is equally anxious to replace the conventional heating methods, which burn fossil fuel at 2,000°C to maintain room temperatures of 21°C.

He also argues for better use of natural lighting, using reflectors and light guides to carry daylight deeper into rooms. It could save 30kW a year for every square metre of office space, he says.

Wasted lighting is always a tricky subject in offices, as the grubby "switch it off" signs around light switches in many offices show. Some buildings seem designed to waste lights — where all the lights in a large office are controlled by one switch and there is no way to turn off a section of lights if part of the office is not being used.

An example to bigger users has been given by the Abraham Darby School in Telford, Shropshire. Back in 1984 Mr K A Pattinson, the headmaster, began a "switch it off" campaign; in four years that helped the school save more than £10,000 on electricity.

He went on to convert two-thirds of classroom light switches to timer switches, preset to go on for just 40 minutes — the length of a normal class lesson — only when turned on by a key in the teacher's control. The other third of the lights are under normal control, without timers, for safety's sake. It cost £4,400. It saved £2,200 in the first year, £15,650 (and 237 tonnes of CO₂) in five years.

BILL CATER

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Wasted assets should be put to work

Excess energy could, in theory, replace North Sea gas if the generating system was more efficient, Chris Partridge writes

By a remarkable coincidence, the waste heat thrown out of Britain's power stations every day is almost exactly equivalent to the amount of gas burnt in the country over the same time. In other words, if we could use that heat to make products and heat offices and homes, there would be no need to get gas from the North Sea at all. It is not as simple as that, of course. The problem is that heat cannot be easily transported, unlike electricity or gas, so unless the power station is next to where people live, the heat pumped out as a by-product of generating electricity cannot be used. As a result, the heat that is thrown away from power stations must be generated again to heat homes. The fuel that is burnt in this process is responsible for most of the carbon dioxide emission from Britain, adding significantly to the greenhouse effect. If all the waste heat from power stations were used to heat houses, production of greenhouse gases would go down by 40 per cent, experts claim.

Combined heat and power, or

CHP, puts electricity generators next to the place where the power is used, so the waste heat from the engines can be put to work. The most quoted examples are hospitals, where the lights are on most of the time and wards need to be kept at constant temperature. One well-known CHP installation is at Greenwich District Hospital, south London, where the boiler room is visible from the street.

One of the latest CHP units is at British Gas's new Gas Research Centre at Loughborough, due to open later this year.

The mini power station has three large gas-fuelled Caterpillar engines driving electrical generators. The heat generated by the engines, from both the exhausts and the cooling water, is captured by heat exchangers for use in the buildings.

In the winter, it all goes to heat the premises. In the summer, it provides the energy to drive the air conditioning system.

The Gas Research Centre is still connected to the national grid to ensure power is available at maximum peaks or if all the engines fail.

The maximum environmental benefits of CHP will come only



Going to waste: a power station pours excess heat into the atmosphere when it could be used for heating and industrial processes

when whole districts have heat piped to them from a local power station. The high cost and bulk of the insulated pipes needed to carry hot water from power stations to the places where it will be used has made district heating schemes difficult to justify economically in the past, but the rising cost of fuel and

environmental concerns are pushing district heating back onto the planning agenda.

The biggest scheme so far is in the City of London, where pipes will carry hot water and (for the first time in a district scheme) chilled water for air conditioning to the Guildhall, Barbican Arts Centre

and the Museum of London, and eventually to large office blocks as well.

Both hot and cold water will be provided by the waste heat from a gas fired power station in Charterhouse Square. The developers, Citigen (in which British Gas has a stake) and Utilicom, a French

electricity company, claim the exhaust from the station will be purer than the air in the street below.

But one of the main imperatives behind the scheme is not environmental but aesthetic. The City's new skyline regulations prohibit visible air conditioning stacks so the developers see a rising demand for

chilled water as premises are refurbished and the problem of getting air conditioning into listed buildings has to be faced.

Most companies use more power than heat, but some, such as paper mills and pharmaceutical laboratories, use more heat than electricity. For them, it would make sense to generate heat from large gas engines and sell the electricity byproduct to the national grid.

One of the main purposes of the legislation which privatised the electricity industry was to allow them to do this, but it has not happened. The reason is the bizarre pool mechanism, which sets daily spot prices used to value electricity from private generators.

Because big users of electricity, mainly the regional electricity companies, need continuity of supply above all else, they have agreed long-term contracts with the two generating companies at relatively high prices. The electricity pool is so little used (only 17 per cent of electricity is traded on the pool) it is not viable for small generators such as CHP operators to sell surplus electricity.

This prevents CHP from contributing to the reduction of Britain's emissions of greenhouse gases. If electricity generated as a by-product of heat were offered the same subsidy as nuclear power, much more would be used and the full benefits of CHP would be reaped.

Raising steam from scraps and mouldy socks

Garbage and mining by-products provide new energy sources

Despite considerable environmental and financial pressure the British coal industry will remain a major energy supplier for the foreseeable future and its research staff are making considerable progress in turning coal into a more energy-efficient fuel.

Research into furnace design continues and advances are being made in the amount of energy used in handling coal between the coal face and the power stations.

British Coal is also taking advantage of the requirement on the generating industry to use more power produced from non-fossil fuels.

The requirement has made small-scale generating schemes economically viable. One of the more innovative of these schemes is planned for the Harworth Colliery in Nottinghamshire.

The power plant will recover potentially valuable reserves of gas from the mine, most of which would otherwise simply be released into the atmosphere.

A 15 megawatt combined cycle electricity generating plant will be fuelled exclusively by pit gas, a low-calorific value waste gas extracted from the coal face during mining. More than 50 per cent of the gas at Harworth is methane, a major contributor to the greenhouse effect. At present some of the gas pumped from the coal faces is burned for heating but the majority is vented to the atmosphere.

The new power generation plant will use the gas to produce electricity. Overall it will provide a substantial saving for British Coal and contribute to a cleaner environment by reducing the emission of methane.

'At present the majority of the gas is vented into the atmosphere'

Peter Brotherhood Ltd, which specialises in developing power generating plant using waste gases, is supplying a multi-stage steam turbine which will be a key component of the system. Additional electricity will be provided by two gas turbines which will directly burn the mines' gas.

Waste heat from the gas turbine exhaust systems will fire two boilers which will raise steam at 500C for the Peter Brotherhood turbine.

The complete system can cope with fluctuations in the volume of gas produced and its calorific value, both of which vary with the geology and the rate of mining operations.

A few miles south at Little Packington near Coventry, Peter Brotherhood has installed an

eight megawatt turbine to supplement a gas turbine system. The system uses gas produced by the decomposition of waste in a refuse tip to supply electricity to the national grid. The landfill site, operated by BFI Packington Ltd, has a network of 100 gaswells which supply gas, mainly methane, to a small power station where it is cleaned, treated and burned in a 3.7 megawatt gas turbine. The Brotherhood steam turbine is fired by a combination of gas and excess heat from the gas turbine.

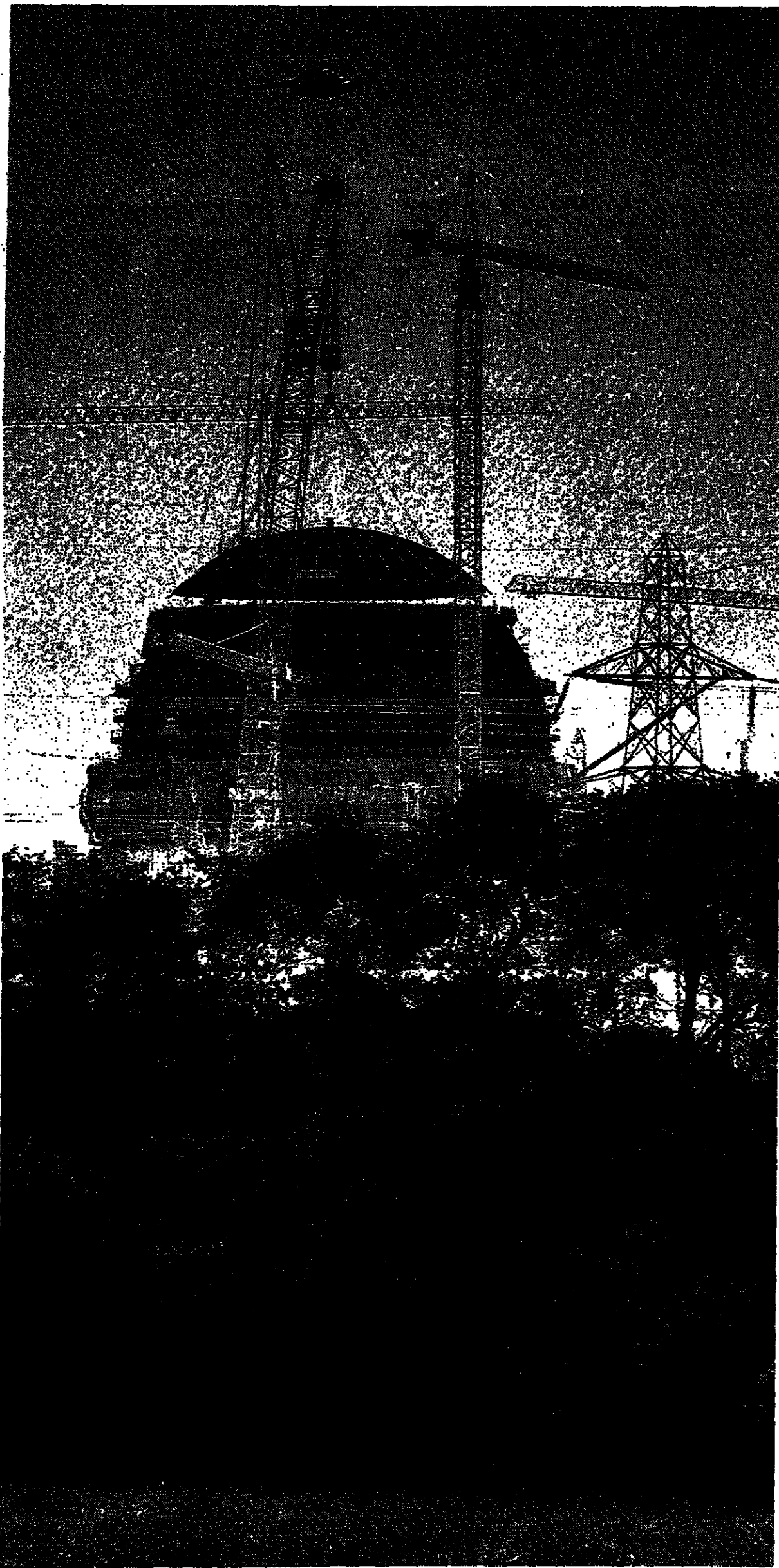
Ivor Abilt, of Peter Brotherhood, said: "In many different countries, government energy policy initiatives and legislation to protect the environment have brought about innovative schemes which capture what would otherwise be waste energy and turn it into profitable power."

DAVID YOUNG

JOHN GILES



What a gas! British Coal pits are beginning to extract methane — as well as coal — as an energy source



One day, all power stations will be made this way.

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At Sizewell in Suffolk, Britain's first Pressurised Water Reactor is presently under construction.

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The company responsible for the Sizewell B project is Nuclear Electric plc. We own and run the twelve nuclear power stations in England and Wales, producing well over one sixth of the country's electricity.

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To visit a Nuclear Power Station, or for more information, write to Peter Haslam, Nuclear Electric plc, 123 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5EA.



Nuclear Electric

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actor interviewed

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symptomatic of the
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The economy failed to
ignite in the final
quarter, despite lower
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Eurotherm incurred
the wrath of Britain's
accounting watchdog,
which ruled against its
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THE POUND

US \$ 1.4590 (+0.0005)
German mark 2.3750 (-0.0029)
Exchange index 77.2 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 2838.3 (-1.7)
Dow Jones 3330.83 (+8.85)
Nikkei Avg 16820.61 (-184.42)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 6 1/4%
US Federal Funds 2 1/4%
3-month Treas Bills 2.95-2.98%
Long Bond 7.00%

CURRENCIES

New York London
£/\$ 1.4550 £/S 1.4557
\$/DM 1.6284 \$/DM 2.3721
\$/Sfr 1.4905 \$/Sfr 2.1712
\$/Yen 116.35 \$/Yen 116.19
\$/SDR 1.0504 \$/SDR 1.2227
London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing (5)
AM 328.90 PM 329.70
Close 330.40-330.90
New York
Comex 330.35-330.85

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 137.9 January (1.7%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Leyland chiefs to mount buyout

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MANAGERS at the Leyland DAF lorry plant in Lancashire are to mount a buyout bid to rescue the business from receivership. The initiative could save the 1,346 jobs remaining at the plant.

John Gilchrist, managing director of the UK arm of the collapsed Anglo-Dutch lorry company, announced the buyout plans after administrators to the continental operations completed a £439 million rescue package backed by the Dutch government and Belgium's Flemish state government.

The Dutch administrator said Leyland could not be included — although DAF wanted the British plant's light lorries to complement Dutch-built medium and heavy vehicles — because the British government had declined to participate in the new company, DAF Trucks.

The Leyland buyout plans raise the prospect of saving the rump of the company's British activities, which had 5,500 workers when banks appointed administrative receivers three weeks ago.

Executives at the van plant in Birmingham, where 1,960 employees remain, are also drawing up plans for a buyout. But uncertainty overhangs the Albion axle works in Glasgow, the parts warehouse in Chorley, Lancashire, and the marketing operation at Thame, Oxfordshire. Together, these operations employ 1,248 people.

The buyout groups at Birmingham and Leyland are

both being advised by Coopers & Lybrand, the accountancy firm. However, there is little chance that they will combine, because the technologies and prospects of the two operations are so different.

The Leyland lorry operation is the largest part of the business: it accounted for about £300 million of Leyland DAF's UK turnover. Two-thirds of revenue are derived from the 45 series 74-tonne lorry.

Leyland DAF has not filed accounts since 1990, when it recorded a loss of £64.5 million on sales of £700 million. Leyland's best asset is its purpose-built truck assembly plant, completed in 1981 at a cost of £33.6 million.

Mr Gilchrist, 51, has worked in the business since 1964. His partners in the proposed venture are John Oliver, 45, the head of truck operations, and Stewart Pierce, 39, the personnel director.

Mr Gilchrist said he and his colleagues had developed a business plan that had the "support in principle" of senior executives at DAF Trucks in Holland, who proposed to take part of Leyland's output. Friso Meeter, administrator to DAF in Holland, said he did not expect money to be available to meet claims from the group's shareholders. In talks with unions, he is asking for the 3,500 workers in Holland and Belgium whose jobs will be saved to work a 39-hour week, instead of the present 36 hours. He also wants a 10 per cent pay cut.



Tokyo to deal with Shell losses

By GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

ROYAL Dutch/Shell officials in London yesterday put responsibility for sorting out the aftermath of heavy foreign exchange losses, which could total £4 billion, at its Showa Shell Sekiyu associate on the board in Tokyo.

Shell has only one part-time, non-executive director on the Showa Shell board to safeguard an investment of £228 million. But one large investor in Shell said: "Shell has to suffer the vicissitudes of only being able to operate in the important Japanese market as an associate and has only limited control over it."

A Shell spokesman in London said that Showa Shell was "responsible for identifying those involved, and taking the necessary disciplinary action". He could not comment on any dialogue with the Shell

representative on the Showa Shell board.

Royal Dutch/Shell shares fell 5p to 576p yesterday. Analysts estimate Shell's total loss from the foreign exchange trading would be about £250 million, compared with the £131 million loss to be charged to Shell profits, due to be announced on Thursday. The difference is explained by the further fall in the yen since the December year-end.

In total, analysts believe Showa Shell will lose £1 billion from the dollar-yen foreign exchange trading, described by Takeshi Henmi, the Showa Shell president, as outside the company's rules.

Showa Shell pays for crude oil imports in dollars, and bought dollars forward at an average of ¥145 each in 1989. It carried its position through in the hope of avoiding losses

from a rebound in the dollar. But the dollar ended 1992 at about ¥125. One fund manager described this as doing business "on the basis that the red always comes up eventually".

New guidelines in Japan on rollovers, issued by the banking industry, call for these to be settled within six months and ban extensions of more than one year. Shell's share of the £1 billion losses is 50 per cent. But analysts calculate that, after tax, the damage is likely to be £250 million.

Royal Dutch/Shell only began trading Showa Shell as an equity investment at the start of 1992, despite owning 50 per cent of Japan's most prominent retailer and refiner since 1985, when Shell Sekiyu merged with Showa Oil.

One oil analyst said yesterday that the episode was

"embarrassing" for Shell but had been "blown up out of all proportions".

Keith Morris, of Carr, Kitch and Aitken, the stockbroker, said: "Most people are expressing surprise in the fact that Shell prides itself on strict management of its world subsidiaries. The size is irrelevant, just that it's happened at all. It proves they're human after all." A fund manager who holds Shell shares said: "One still has confidence in the management of Shell but one is disappointed."

Brokers expect a slight rise in Shell's net income to about £3 billion in 1992 (£2.4 billion). The Showa Shell foreign exchange losses will be offset by a change in accounting that throws up a one-off gain of £149 million.

Tempos, page 27

What's my line? Richard Branson and John MacGregor, the transport secretary, yesterday launched the Virgin Clubhouse lounge at Terminal 3 of Heathrow airport, complete with a snacks-on-tracks service. Mr Branson gave BA a 24-hour deadline to settle compensation. "If we don't see something sensible in the next 24 hours then there is no point in carrying on," he said. BA has paid out £610,000 in libel damages and £1 million costs, but Virgin wants the new settlement to cover three years of commercial damage. "We lost a great deal of money because of their tactics and need compensation. We don't want to see things dragged on indefinitely but they are repeatedly delaying a solution to the problem," Mr Branson said. Mr MacGregor would only say: "I am always pleased to see our airlines competing effectively."

Fiat executive held in corruption scandal

By OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT



Mattioli: fourth arrest

THE chief financial officer of Fiat, which accounts for 3.5 per cent of Italy's gross national product, has been arrested by police investigating the corruption scandal that has plunged the country into political turmoil.

Francesco Paolo Mattioli and Antonio Mosconi, chief executive of Fiat's insurance arm, are accused of corruption and violating Italy's restrictions on contributions to political parties.

Fiat said it was "very surprised" by the arrests, and would stand by its employees. "We are sure that the two

executives will show that the allegations are groundless," a company statement said.

Shares in the group, Italy's biggest private company, fell sharply, dragging down the rest of the Italian stock exchange as investors wondered where the investigators might next turn their attention. William Cowan, Italian analyst at James Capel, said: "When someone as senior as Mattioli is arrested on suspicion of corruption, that's a terrific blow to investors' perceptions."

The detentions bring to four the number of Fiat executives charged during the "clean

hands" investigation, which began in Milan a year ago.

The arrests relate to contracts for the construction of the second, overground phase of the Milan mass transit railway system. Investigators apparently decided on the defendants after the arrest on Friday of a Christian Democratic party official, Maurizio Prada, in connection with the railway system contracts.

Signor Mattioli is a board director of Cogefar-Imprest, a Fiat subsidiary that ranks as Italy's biggest civil engineer.

Bribery arrests, page 6

A firm US lead in the wrong direction

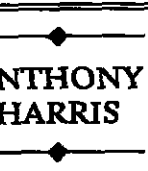
President Clinton has just achieved the politically impossible — a popular tax increase. So he looks like a giant among the exhausted and demoralised governments of the industrialised world. If he wants to give them a lead, most will be eager to follow. The signs are, unhappily, that he is about to give a firm lead in the wrong direction. Though I fervently wish to be proved wrong about this, it is more a wish than a hope.

The danger signals are coming not from the president, but from the rumoured intentions of Lloyd Bentsen, the new Treasury secretary. Mr Bentsen is a veteran and a very impressive figure. It was he, you may remember, who demolished the unfortunate Dan Quayle in a debate in the last campaign but one by claiming: "I knew Jack Kennedy. He was a friend of mine. And believe me, you are not Jack Kennedy."

Mr Bentsen is in fact a Texas conservative, the man who beat George Bush to the Senate. He is much more like his one-time predecessor, James Baker, than like any Democrat who springs to mind, and his relations with President Kennedy were at arm's length. But he was a

great success as a vice-presidential candidate to Governor Dukakis, and was nursing some hopes of coming up on the rails as the Democratic candidate last year in a lung convention. Now he is over 70, so that chance is lost but he can still hope to crown a distinguished career on the world stage. He has already said his early aim is to revive the Group of Seven in world policy.

So far, so good. But where does he hope to lead the world through G7? All the Washington rumours so far suggest a throwback to a poor Democratic example, President Carter, and his plan for a co-ordinated world drive for growth. The Carter aim was to persuade Germany to act as world locomotive through a large fiscal relaxation. Unfortunately, the train took three years to start and ran straight into the buffers of inflation. Now that only Japan has much room for fiscal manoeuvre, the talk is of a co-ordinated cut in interest rates. Nobody who took part in the Carter experiment is keen to repeat the



Anthony Harris

singer is responsible only to God and to history, and they don't mind a temporary recession." So the Bentsen train is unlikely to start at all. Which is just as well, because the aim is wrong. First of all, it wouldn't work. Monetary authorities have some control over short rates of interest, but very little over the general level of rates, including long rates, which are set by supply and demand.

While short rates are currently all over the place, the spread of long rates is small among the respectable economies of the world — remarkably small, considering the uncertainty about future exchange rates. Real long rates — the gap between nominal long rates and expected inflation — are historically high everywhere. They are not being held up there by monetary policy, which varies widely, but by the weight

of official borrowing. They can be cut by fiscal tightening: higher taxes or lower spending. Indeed, America has just demonstrated this. The more announcement of the Clinton programme, which will face all the hazards of Congress, our American long rates by 50 basis points in a matter of days. But a co-ordinated world tax increase is not what Mr Bentsen seems to have in mind.

Second, it would be a disaster if it did work. Every worldwide stimulus, from the one orchestrated by the IMF in 1972 on, has turned quickly to worldwide inflation, and then a squeeze. Economies, like troops crossing a bridge, need to break step. In any case, the real priority for a secure world is not a revival of consumer demand in the old industrial countries but a diversion of resources to the bombed-out economies of the former Communist world, where the potential demand for capital is enough to keep long rates high for the foreseeable future, and to help the new lions of the developing world to clean up their environmental act. Mr Bentsen should be urging a world drive to do what the Germans have attempted for east Germany, but do it this time with fiscal honesty.

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Rate cuts fail to cure UK recession

By JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN remained in the economic doldrums in the last three months of 1992, despite lower interest rates and sterling's substantial devaluation. Total gross domestic product rose 0.2 per cent because of a big jump in North Sea oil and gas production, but the on-shore economy — excluding oil and gas — slipped 0.1 per cent.

Total growth fell by 0.5 per cent for the whole of last year, compared with a drop of 2.5 per cent in 1991. But taking out North Sea activity, the economy dropped by 0.7 per cent, according to provisional figures from the Central Statistical Office.

Yesterday's figures confirmed that this recession has been the longest since the 1930s but has not been the most severe. In the last recession, measuring from peak to trough, GDP fell by 5.5 per cent. This time, the decline since the peak in the second quarter of 1990 has been 3.7 per cent.

There was a subdued reaction to the figures in the City. Sterling slipped a little to end at 77.2 on its trade-weighted index from Friday's close of 77.4.

On the stock market, the

■ The present recession is the longest since the 1930s, according to latest figures, which show that the British economy dropped by 0.7 per cent during 1992

FT-SE 100 index closed 1.7 points lower at 2,838.3 and UK government bonds were little changed.

Treasury officials said they were moderately pleased that the contraction of growth was lower than the Chancellor of the Exchequer had predicted in his Autumn Statement in which he was looking for a fall of nearer 1 per cent. This appeared to be accounted for by upward revisions in the first nine months of the year, most pronounced in the agricultural and North Sea sectors.

Ian Harnett, UK economist with Strauss Turnbull, acknowledged that the underlying picture remained weak but expressed some satisfaction that the recession had not been as deep as the government had thought. In the light of the figures, he questioned whether the government had been right to cut base rates again to 6 per cent.

However, other City economists offered a less positive interpretation of the figures. John Marland and Robert Lind of Phillips & Drew noted

that the small rise in overall GDP in the fourth quarter was due to a sharp 6.3 per cent rise in oil and gas production which more than offset a 0.2 per cent decline in manufacturing and a 0.1 per cent drop in the service sector.

They also noted that stock levels had remained high, suggesting that those companies that had built up stocks in anticipation of higher demand had been disappointed and left with them. Phillips & Drew predicted that onshore GDP would fall further in the first three months of this year as any extra demand, which they expect to be weak anyway, would be met from stocks or imports.

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, said in a speech in Newcastle yesterday that, although inflation is likely to remain within target in the short term, "the real challenge will come perhaps 1-2 years out and we must not throw away then the benefits of the reduction in inflation so hard earned in recent years."



New look Queens Moat Houses, the hotel group led by John Baird, above, is converting eight hotels to the Holiday Inn brand under a new franchise agreement with Holiday Inn Worldwide, a subsidiary of Bass. QMH is also renewing an existing Holiday Inn licence for 19 hotels on the Continent over ten years. Four of the new Holiday Inns will be in the UK, the rest on the Continent. Gerald Bell, joint managing director of QMH, hopes certain of its UK hotels will benefit from the international brand. *Tempus*, page 27

Halifax recruits chief from Leeds

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

MIKE Blackburn, the outspoken chief executive of Leeds Permanent Building Society, has been named as chief executive of the Halifax Building Society, the largest mortgage lender.

Mr Blackburn, 51, who has been in charge of the Leeds for five years, was previously the chief executive of the Joint Credit Card Company, commonly known as Access. Jim Birrell, the current chief executive of the Halifax, retires in August when he reaches 60. Mr Blackburn came to prominence during talks between building societies and government ministers over mortgage rescue schemes in 1991.

When the government appeared to be gaining the upper hand in the propaganda war, Mr Blackburn reminded the public that it was the prime minister who had said of interest rates that if they were not hurting they were not working. He accused the government of a conspiracy of silence when running a campaign against the double taxation of building society profits in 1985. The Leeds claimed back £57 million that it said it had been forced to pay because of the change of practice. The campaign included challenging the calculations of composite rate tax through the High Court.

The Leeds, under Mr Blackburn, was the first society to issue permanent interest bear-

ing shares in 1991 and was behind the launch of the society's charity credit cards, which have raised more than £2 million.

The Halifax, as the largest society, has had a closer relationship with the government and not been openly critical of any of its policies.

Mr Blackburn will join the Halifax a few weeks before Mr Birrell retires. Roger Boyes, finance director, has been appointed as acting chief executive at the Leeds from Monday.

Jon Foulds, Halifax chairman, said: "Michael Blackburn is ideally placed to build on the culture and values of the Halifax and to take the society forward from its extremely strong position in the financial services industry."



Blackburn: outspoken

Cash calls win strong response

By PHILIP PANGALOS

THREE substantial rights issues raised some £590 million between them, pointing to a healthy appetite by investors for cash calls.

Asda shareholders threw their weight behind the supermarket group's £347 million rights issue, 94.3 per cent of which was taken up. The proceeds of the three-for-ten issue, at 53p a share, are to be used to speed up the company's recovery and accelerate store replacement. Asda shares eased 1p to 64p.

Burton Group announced a 90.4 per cent take-up of its £163 million, one-for-three rights issue at 60p a share. Proceeds will be used to refurbish stores and cut borrowings. Burton shares dipped 1 1/2p to 75 1/2p.

Some 93.2 per cent of shareholders in Wessex Water took up their entitlement to the group's £80 million rights issue. The one-for-six issue, at 480p a share, was part of a £144.5 million fund-raising package connected with the acquisition of NCF's waste management unit. Wessex shares firmed 2p to 608p.

Cast vote for best company

VOTING coupons for the Coopers & Lybrand Awards, held in association with *The Times*, are published for the first time today. Votes will be cast in the categories of company of the year, entrepreneur of the year and new company of the year.

Voting closes on March 5, with the awards presented on March 11 at the Grosvenor House hotel, London. The guest speaker will be Michael Heseltine, trade secretary. Nominations for company of the year are Halma, Huntleigh Technology, Hickling Pentecost, Seton Healthcare, Sherwood Group and Sidlaw. The list for new company of the year comprises Dorling Kindersley, Taunton Cider, Forth Ports and JD Wetherspoon.

The shortlist for entrepreneur of the year includes Iain Cater of Seton Healthcare, Andrew Cohen of Betterware, David Crossland of Airtours, and Richard Phillips of Benson Group.

Best performing share is Brown & Jackson. Awards will also be presented for the best annual report and best performance by an investment trust.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Welsh Water acquires Acer for £21 million

WELSH Water is buying Acer Group, the international engineering consultants, for £21 million cash. The utility company is also taking on Acer's borrowings, that total £27 million. Acer combines the businesses of Freeman Fox and Partners and John Taylor and Sons, and the group has been involved in major civil engineering projects such as the Tower Bridge, Crystal Palace and the Sydney harbour bridge. Welsh Water has provided incentive arrangements for key Acer staff that provide extra payments totalling £8 million if profits of £33 million are achieved over the next 35 months.

John Elfed Jones, chairman of Welsh Water, said that the acquisition would substantially increase the non-regulated turnover and profit of the Welsh Water group. Acer made a pre-tax profit of £4.4 million in the year to April 1992 on turnover of £85 million, which is expected to rise to £100 million this year.

Peugeot Talbot dives

PEUGEOT Talbot, the UK subsidiary of the French car-maker, reported a slump in pre-tax profits to £10.2 million in 1992, from £50.8 million in 1991 and £109 million in 1990. Output at the company's Ryton plant, near Coventry, was virtually unchanged at about 88,000 vehicles. Three years ago, 116,500 cars were produced there. UK sales last year of both UK and French-made Peugeot cars increased, but export sales from the UK fell from 61,400 to 53,000, owing to lower demand in some European markets.

NatWest loss on Trump

NATIONAL Westminster Bank could take up to a 50 per cent loss on probably half its loans to Donald Trump, New York property financier, whom it helped rescue two years ago. Mr Trump is working on a refinancing plan to allow him to pay back half his \$190 million personal loans at full value and the remaining \$95 million at 50-60 per cent of face value over the next two years. NatWest is understood to have been owed \$65 million. Taking half at full value and the rest at full discount would mean a loss to NatWest of up to \$16 million.

SBG director resigns

NEIL Redding, a director of Southern Business Group, has resigned after allegations that certain customers were overcharged through its Benworth subsidiary. David McErlain, SBG chairman, said an internal investigation revealed improprieties and the people involved were removed. Mr Redding, Benworth managing director, had no knowledge or involvement, he said. Roger Limpenny, SBG finance director, said that after a damaging article in the weekend press, Mr Redding believed he had no alternative but to resign.

Essex lifts payout

ESSEX Furniture, the USM-quoted furniture maker and retailer, is raising its interim dividend to 1.5p (1.25p) after pre-tax profits surged 65 per cent to £619,000 in the traditionally stronger six months to end-December. Organic growth and new stores helped turnover advance 60.7 per cent to £5.19 million. Michael Franks, chairman, said the group was continuing to expand, having opened two showrooms in Lake-side, West Thurrock, and Peterborough since the beginning of the financial year. Earnings are 3.73p (2.46p) a share.

Operation for Bond

ALAN Bond, the bankrupt Australian businessman, who suffered heart problems last year while in jail, is to undergo open heart surgery today. A spokeswoman for Mr Bond, 54, said he was preparing to go into the Royal Perth Hospital for an operation to replace a leaking aortic valve. Doctors say the operation is a fairly common procedure involving a cardiopulmonary bypass. The surgery follows a turbulent period for the former Australian of the Year, who was declared bankrupt and jailed for 90 days.

Ashtead beats gloom

DESPITE depressed conditions in the construction industry, Ashtead Group, the plant and tool hire group, lifted pre-tax profits 6.9 per cent to £1.61 million in the six months to end-October. Turnover edged up 5.4 per cent to £16.8 million. Peter Lewis, chairman, is confident Ashtead will reap substantial benefits from economic recovery. "Operational gearing is now such that a 10 per cent rise in our UK prices would double the group's profits," said Mr Lewis. The interim is 1.133p (1.1p).

FII may be slowed

FII Group, the footwear manufacturer, increased profit before tax to £3.5 million from £3.2 million in the six months to November, but said redundancy costs could harm the second half. The job losses are expected following the introduction of new production machinery aimed at stemming margin erosion. Turnover increased from £40 million to £41 million and the group's scientific and technical division made £0.2 million profit (loss £0.4 million in second half). The 6p interim is up 9 per cent on the previous year.

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مكتبة من الأصل

Eurotherm compelled to restate accounts

■ The role of Arthur Andersen, which gave an unqualified audit opinion on the accounts, is being studied by the disciplinary committee of the English Institute

By Sarah Bagnall

EUROTHERM, which makes industrial process and control equipment, is the latest company to be rebuked by the Financial Reporting Review Panel, which ruled against its accounting treatment of closure costs in the 1991 report and accounts.

The panel, the UK's accounting standards watchdog, required the company to show the changes in its 1992 report and accounts, published yesterday. The position of Arthur Andersen, the auditor, which did not qualify the 1991 accounts, is being studied by the disciplinary committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales.

The review panel objected to Eurotherm's writeback of £513,000 of closure costs as an exceptional item in its 1991 results. It ruled that this was inconsistent with the original treatment of the closure costs as an extraordinary item in the 1990 accounts.

Robert Biddle, Eurotherm's finance director, said the re-statement resulted in the earnings per share for 1990 falling by 2.1p, to 17.5p. A further 5.2p fall, to 12.3p, was due to the company's early adoption of FRS3, which prompted the reclassification of extraordinary items as exceptional.

The panel's decision is in line with previous rulings, none of which has made use of the panel's ultimate power of

recourse to the courts. Instead, companies have only had to restate figures in their next sets of accounts.

The panel, now in its second year, has issued 11 public statements on company accounting techniques, including yesterday's against Eurotherm. Last year, it ruled against British Gas, with the effect that £1 billion was knocked off the company's pre-tax profits, and against Trafalgar House, requiring the 1991 pre-tax profits to be restated from £122 million to £19.3 million.

Another big company to suffer the panel's wrath was Williams Holdings, which was reprimanded for breaching the Companies Act and accounting standards. However, in the Williams case, there was no requirement for a restatement of the accounts.

Under the panel's procedures, the case is handed on to the Institute of Chartered Accountants for consideration of the auditors' position. So far, the institute has not taken any disciplinary action against auditors but rulings have yet to be made against several accountancy firms.

In Eurotherm's case, the position of Arthur Andersen is unclear because of a ruling from the Accounting Standards Board's urgent issues task force requiring reorganisation costs to be treated as exceptional items.



Capital profit: Paul Pinder, managing director, left, and Rod Aldridge, chairman and chief executive, announcing £4.4m profits yesterday

Profits at Capita buck trend

PAUL Pinder, managing director of Capita Group, is confident of further progress this year after the UK's largest provider of computer and management services to the public sector again bucked the trend with a 28 per cent advance in full-year profits (Philip Pangalos writes).

Continued strong growth from the outsourcing division helped pre-tax profits climb to £4.41 million in the year to end-December (£3.45 million). Turnover, boosted by organic growth and acquisitions, rose 34 per cent to £33.1 million.

The final dividend is 4.2p (3.6p), making a total of 6.3p (5.4p) for the year. Earnings rose to 19.3p (15.71p) a share.

Coventry home loans reach second highest

By Lindsay Cook, Money Editor

THE Coventry Building Society increased pre-tax profits by 16 per cent to £24.7 million in 1992, despite provisions rising by almost £4 million to £13.7 million.

The 16th-largest society lent £485 million during the year — the second-highest figure in its history. Its retail savings were up 12.4 per cent at £192 million.

Martin Ritchie, chief executive, said: "We had three successful fixed-rate issues for savers. We found that as rates fell that was what savers wanted. Borrowers wanted the certainty that rates would not rise again, but to be able to take advantage of further falls. We offered capped mortgages

to them." More than a third of the mortgages advanced were to first-time buyers.

Mortgage arrears fell during the year and are now below the industry average.

"Our prudent lending policies have, we believe, protected us, and the majority of our customers, from the problems of negative equity. Additionally, we have developed a comprehensive counselling and arrears' management service which ensures that early and regular contact is maintained with any borrower experiencing difficulty."

The ratio of management expenses to mean assets fell from 1.08 per cent to 1.04 per cent.

Low & Bonar slumps 66% but holds payout

By Philip Pangalos

LOW & Bonar, the packaging and specialist materials group, is maintaining its total dividend at 9.1p, despite a 66.7 per cent dive in pre-tax profits to £8.1 million, against £24.3 million last time.

Profits in the year to end-November were depressed by a £14 million exceptional restructuring charge, relating to cost-cutting and rationalisation at the North American subsidiary, the closure of the loss-making UK non-wovens business and a writedown on the sale of interests in Africa. Despite acquisitions, turnover was static at £307 million.

Stripping out exceptional profits dropped only 9 per cent to £22.1 million, reflecting

lower gains from property and increased interest charges after acquisitions.

Underlying operating profits and margins improved, mainly due to efficiency programmes. Jim Leng, chief executive, is confident the restructuring is reaping benefits. "We've got a sharper business focus. The improved operating margins have demonstrated the benefits of the group's ongoing cost reduction and efficiency programmes. The restructuring in North America gives us additional scope for improvement."

Earnings plunged to 3.35p (18.82p) a share, but the total dividend is held at 9.1p, with a maintained final of 6.4p.

Institute plans for long-term jobless

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

A £250 million temporary work scheme for the long-term unemployed is set out today in advance of government figures showing the level of long-term unemployment to be about 1 million for the first time in five years.

After total jobless data last week of more than 3 million, ministers are bracing themselves for further difficulties over unemployment today when details of the number of people out of work for longer than 12 months are published.

Unemployment analysts expect the present level of 955,000 long-term unemployed to have come close to, but not quite breached, the 1 million level. The number of people out of work for longer than a year last rose above 1 million a decade ago, only falling back below in 1988.

From May, the long-term unemployment figures will be announced on the same day as the overall monthly unemployment figures. Some unemployment specialists believe this will hide the impact of long-term unemployment since public attention will be focused on the overall total rather than the quarterly figures of those out of work for longer than six or 12 months.

The government will bring forward in next month's Budget measures to help the long-term unemployed. Proposals published today by the Employment Policy Institute, an employment pressure group, urge a large-scale temporary work scheme to cover the 200,000 long-term unemployed between the ages of 18 and 24.

The scheme, which would cost an estimated £530 million in a full year, offset by benefit savings of £273 million, would involve the private, public and voluntary sectors in six-monthly work placements paid at the rate of £102 a week.

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US blue chips up in a narrow range

MICHAEL CLARK

(Reuters)

Yen to buy: money traders in Tokyo yesterday

biggest saving, of Kr490 million, was made in the agriculture division, which accounts for almost half total turnover.

Hydro's North Sea oil and gas output rose 16 per cent to 8.3 million tonnes of oil equivalents (toe). Proven oil and gas reserves at the end of 1992 edged up to 209.5 million toe, against 209.2 million toe a year earlier.

Temps page 27

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MARKETS

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ICI picks worst time possible for decision on demerger

As the UK group prepares to report on Thursday, Ross Tieman looks at the storm clouds gathering over the European chemical industry

Sir Denys Henderson, the chairman of ICI, will join his fellow directors at 2.15 pm tomorrow at the company's Millbank, London, headquarters, to decide whether to split Britain's biggest exporter in two.

On the face of it, they could scarcely have chosen a worse moment. The collapse of prices and capacity utilisation in Europe's chemical industry has not yet triggered losses, closures and redundancies on the scale of those looming over Europe's steel mills, but storm clouds are swirling across one of the few industries in which Europe remains the undisputed world leader.

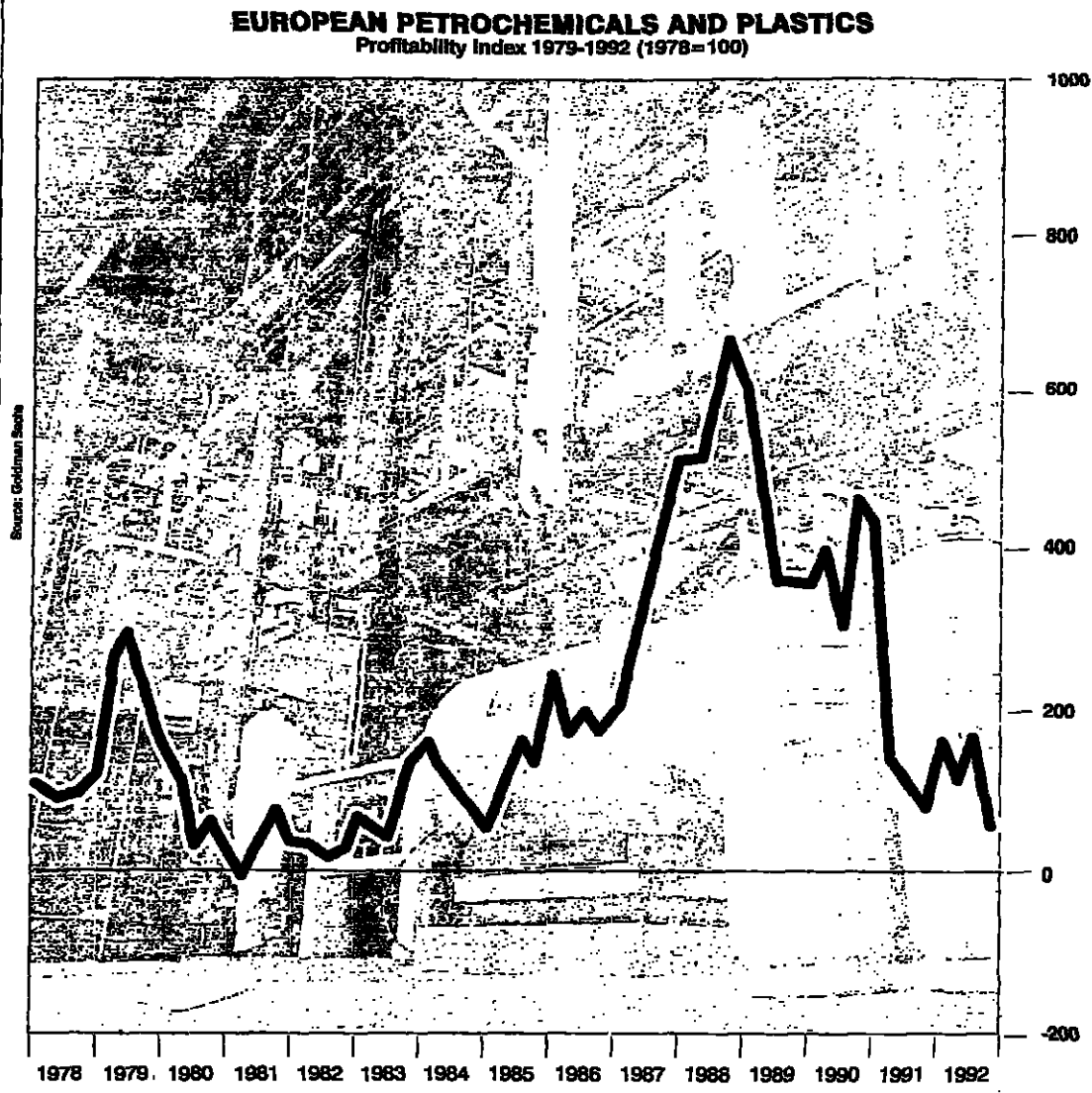
Like steel, chemicals is a core industry, the *sine qua non* of a developed economy. From gases through paints and plastics to pharmaceuticals, Europe's chemical giants provide the raw materials for manufacturing industry and the foundation for the relative comfort and good health that distinguishes life in the late 20th century from bygone eras.

These companies are, indeed, giants. In 1991, BASF's sales amounted to DM46.6 billion. Hoechst is ahead of BASF by a whisker, with Bayer completing the German trio of world leaders. ICI, Britain's entry at number four in the league table, outstrips the only two non-European companies in the top ten, DuPont and Dow Chemical.

Two hazards have intruded on the industry: recession and the worldwide drive against soaring healthcare costs. When growth in industrial output slows, or shrinks, demand for chemicals eases. It is no coincidence that Richard Freeman, chief economist at ICI, is regarded as one of the best economic forecasters in Britain. Information from ICI's order books gives him an exceptional insight into what is happening in industry.

The European economy has slowed in defiance of expectations. At the beginning of last year, Cefic, the European chemical industry body, forecast GDP growth in western Europe of 1.9 per cent. In reality, it was probably only 1 per cent. This under-shoot has exacerbated the problems of this cyclical industry. As demand grows, capacity becomes tight and prices rise. Then one or more producers conclude a new plant is needed. When it is completed, that extra capacity often leads to a slump in prices. Much of the new capacity that came on stream in Belgium and Spain was not really needed. As a result, prices, and volumes for some products, fell quickly.

When Rhône-Poulenc of France became the first of the big European chemical companies to report last week, Jean-Pierre Tiroulet, the finance director, said the average price for the



organic and intermediate chemicals sold by the group last year fell 5 per cent. Fibres and polymers showed a similar slide. But these averages concealed a sharp slide in the first quarter, when the chemical industry was forced into stockpiling as customers cut purchases sharply. Currency turmoil made matters worse. In the final quarter, many leading chemical groups are believed to have made losses.

Now, the industry has the combined problems of a stock overhang, excess capacity, and weak prices. In Germany this year, for the first time in a decade chemical production is set to decline. Last month, Gerhard Wolf, a BASF director, told a Chemical Industries Association conference: "For most chemical companies, also for BASF, last year was very unsatisfying. And in 1993 we shall be faced with even more difficulties. I think we should all like to know when we shall reach rock bottom — perhaps in 1994?"

Mr Wolf's gloom was founded on the belief that the difficulties were caused not simply by a downturn in the business cycle, but by structural

changes related to the completion, on paper at least, of the single European market. The run-up to the single market triggered a rush of inward manufacturing investment from Asia and America, causing a battle between chemical groups to supply them.

Finally, he said, customers were no longer content to buy bulk products at the lowest price, but required suppliers to contribute to the brainpower and technology to solve their problems. These pressures resulted in rationalisation, within and between companies. The process has already begun.

Jackie Ashurst, an analyst at James Capel, the broker, said the number of ethylene producers in Europe declined from 31 in 1980 to 21 in 1992. Yet surplus capacity still exceeds 15 per cent. She believes fuller capacity cuts are needed and are likely to be accompanied by a spate of mergers, accompanied by labour shedding.

Ironically, ICI, which has been more ready than most to rationalise in the past, probably now finds itself in a more promising position than most of its rivals, thanks to sterling's devaluation, the company's relative strength in

dollar-related markets, including the Far East, and the prospect of a slight recovery in UK chemical demand. But two other problems should be noted: the impending reform of the European Community's common agricultural policy has devastated sales of fertilisers, pesticides and the like to the Community's farmers; the collapse of the iron curtain has permitted a surge in imports of some commodity products, at low prices, from eastern Europe.

Then there is healthcare. Squeezed between rising healthcare bills and growing budget deficits, governments are taking on the pharmaceutical companies and demanding lower prices. Measures already taken by the German government are expected to constrain spending increases on drugs this year to 1 per cent, despite an ageing population. In Italy, a 2 per cent fall is forecast.

For the next year or two, the pain experienced by Europe's chemical industry is likely to be considerable and shared, perhaps excessively, with employees. Unlike the steel industry, where each round of surgery seems to provide only a few years' respite, chemicals should be showing signs of a return to long-term growth by the mid-1990s. But the intervening years will be tough. Given the commitment of Sir Denys, in particular, the demerger is likely to go ahead. But the timing could hardly be worse.

The industry has the combined problems of a stock overhang, excess capacity and weak prices

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

A vintage share index

THE Square Mile may still account for over a quarter of Britain's champagne consumption, but long gone are the days when Louis Roederer could rely solely on the exclusivity of its elegant vintage Cristal. Last year, it launched its first prize draw promotion by inviting habitués of City wine bars to predict the level of the FT-SE 100 index at the close of business on December 31. Thousands, salivating at the prospect of a free bottle, entered the contest. Over a few glasses from a vintage 1985 magnum, Charles Hall, a food analyst at Cazenove & Co yesterday picked up his trophy — an exclusive jeroebom of Cristal 1985 engraved with the Stock Exchange coat of arms. Hall, 24, predicted that the index would end the year at 2,845.9, a mere 0.6 points from the actual figure of 2,846.5. His winning prediction was even more outstanding considering that it was made as long ago as last May, when he entered the competition at Balls Brothers just off London Wall. "It's astounding. I've never won anything in my life," said a beaming Hall, who plans to save the 25th birthday in May. Louis Roederer has never previously produced jeroeboms of Cristal. They are not for sale, although one donated recently to a charity fetched £700.

Nostalgic lunch

Slimming expense accounts may have put an end to free-flowing champagne lunches, but some restaurants are pulling out all the stops to ensure their patrons do not suffer

too grievously in the recession. The Berkeley Hotel is today enticing those who normally lunch at the Savoy Grill or Simpson's to celebrate its 21st anniversary with a lunch at 1972 prices. Those who make the journey out to Wilton Place in Knightsbridge will be treated to the Savoy-owned hotel's regular three-course meal for just £3. Unfortunately the wine list remains at 1993 prices.

Wages pull

LONG gone are the days when canny British executives trawled through advertisements in *The Economist* or *Business Week*, searching for low-wage labour centres abroad. Now the British government is doing all it can to advertise Britain's advantageous "low wages" in German business periodicals. An advert signed by the British consulate in Düsseldorf reads: "Niedrigere Lohnkosten in Grossbritannien" ("Lower Wages in Great Britain"). "Wages in Great Britain are currently lower than in Germany," says Institut der Deutschen Wirtschaft figures

Forgotten females

WOMEN might make up 51 per cent of the population and yet they remain Britain's "most underserved niche market", protests the Peters Management Consultancy in a glossy leaflet alerting the business community to the talents of female consultants. Sometimes the obvious needs to be stated, and PMC does just that: "Female consultants can gain the same number of appointments and sell the same number of policies as male agents. They can also handle rejection just as well as men." But for those who still haven't twigged, PMC offers some advice. "If there is anything you would like to discuss, ring us and ask for one of our principal consultants: Karl Bevan, Patrick Kendall-Jones, Alan Macdonald or Ralph Peters."

AMERICAN Way magazine tells the story of a new employee befuddled by a paper shredder. "Need some help?", a passing secretary asks. "Yes, how does this work?", says the hapless new recruit. "Simple," she replies, taking the fat report from his hands to feed into the machine. "Thanks," says the employee, "but where do the copies come out?"

MELINDA WITTSTOCK



Government blamed for CCT trap

From Mr Peter Keith-Lucas

Sir, Your article of February 17 "Whitehall to examine the tendering trap" fails to appreciate that this is not a problem of local government's making, but the direct product of the UK government's deliberate failure to implement European law, leaving local government as piggy-in-the-middle.

The EC Acquired Rights Directive 77/187 was only partially implemented in Britain by the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 1981. Until recently, the UK government had not only asserted that these provisions did not apply to local authority CCT (Compulsory Competitive Tendering) contracts, but had used its powers under the Local Government Act 1988 to override local authorities, which had warned prospective tenderers of the possible application of the directive and regulations and, thus, of the substantial financial liabilities which they might be taking on. I stress that the application of the directive and the regulations is not a matter for the discretion of the local authority, but a matter of UK and European law, which is directly binding upon local authorities whether or not the UK government wishes to admit it.

Fortunately, just in the past few weeks, the government seems to have decided to come clean and to acknowledge that

the directive and regulations do apply where the result of CCT tendering is the transfer to the new contractor of a business unit or undertaking, whether or not actually profit-making, rather than just a job of work. It has also belatedly introduced amending legislation to extend the UK regulations to bring them into conformity with the EC directive.

Local authorities have been embarrassed by the government's use or threat of its powers under the Local Government Act 1988 to seek to enforce upon them an interpretation of the law, which had become less and less credible.

CSSA may feel that the financial consequences of the law are unreasonable, but it is to the UK government and the European Commission that they should be addressing themselves rather than blaming local authorities for giving them fair warning of their potential liabilities.

Yours faithfully,
PETER KEITH-LUCAS,
Director of Central Services,
City of Swansea,
Central Services Department,
The Guildhall,
Swansea,
West Glamorgan.

Encouraging quick transfers between accounts

From J.E. Cousins
Sir, If banks were made to pay interest on money between accounts, they would soon find a way to transfer money into accounts as quickly as they can take it out.

Amounts of interest too small to be paid could be donated to a charity devoted to helping people whose homes have been repossessed.

Yours faithfully,
J.E. COUSINS,
10 Hopkins Close,
Milton Keynes Village,
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire.

Wheat price and the hidden costs of devaluation

From Mr Aidan Harrison

Sir, Due to the devaluation of the "green pound", the price of grain and flour has indeed risen by some 15 per cent (Dalgely report and *Tempus*, February 16).

The wheat value in something as basic as a loaf of bread is around 10 per cent to

12 per cent of the retail price, while in more highly processed consumer foods this proportion is considerably less.

Surely this means that the devaluation should result in maximum retail price rise of 2 per cent?

Unless I am misreading your article, I would be inter-

ested to know what other costs Dalgely intends to "absorb" to justify raising shop prices by up to 10 per cent?

Yours faithfully,
AIDAN HARRISON,
Morethirst,
Netherwitton,
Northumberland.

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a weekend at Cliveden need
only cost an arm.



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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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Darn good trading, partner

By ROGER PEARSON

The two longer-established Nar-

The store's development owes much to the influence of Mr. Lehrain's American uncle who had a Wild West stage act. Mr Lehrain said: "I learned a bit about throwing knives and axes from him and then started putting on an act of my own. When I was a kid I had



The recession has had its effect on sales. There was a noticeable slackening in demand for saddles in the past year, although items such as shirts and hats were more

He is an expert marksman, rides in the Western style, can spin a rope and throw knives and axes in the traditional American Indian way. His concession to age is not to play such an active part in Wild West style events around the country.

BRIEFINGS

The Cardiff franchise will benefit from Kall Kwik's recent launching of a more intensive programme of caring for new franchisees. This targets the crucial first year in their own business and covers training, start-up and development of a new franchise.

to the NatWest Bank quarterly survey, compared with a 20 per cent increase in the retail price index. Firms with an annual turnover of less than £20,000 have seen the highest increase, of 60 per cent, and their business rates represent 5.1 per cent of turnover.

□ John Parsons, chairman and chief executive of Time and Data Systems, is the new vice-president of the Confederation of British Industry's smaller firms council.

□ International Factors, the subsidiary of Lloyds Bank, increased turnover in 1992 to £3.5 billion, the most ever achieved by a UK factor.

"My complaint is that thanks to the banks, I'm the last small business left!"

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Lessons for lawyers: Coral Hill, who presents programmes for LNTV, says a discussion-type approach was not favoured

Judgment at the TV set

Legal Network Television starts tomorrow. Fiona Bawdon gives a preview verdict

I liked it," said a lawyer. "It reminded me of *Neighbours*." Others may think of *Rumpole of the Bailey*, the obvious example of how complicated court cases can be compressed into tight television slots. The approving lawyer had just been viewing a television reconstruction of a case being settled out of court by what is called alternative dispute resolution (ADR). The clip was from the new series of continuing education programmes to be launched tomorrow by Legal Network Television (LNTV), which is funded by the College of Law, the Law Society and the BBC.

In the extract, six hours of a case are condensed to 15 minutes. Despite creaky acting and weak dialogue ("Rubbish! She's bluffing!" and "That man Snipes pushes me to the limit!"), most of the nine lawyers previewing the series agreed that it succeeded in explaining the nuts and bolts of ADR.

Malcolm Henke, the head of Davies Arnold Cooper's motor claims unit, says: "I had not realised that ADR worked like that. The programme was great fun, which is not a bad way to learn." Rosamund Rhodes-Kemp, a solicitor at Russell Jones & Walker, says: "The programme clearly showed the solicitors' role in relation to that of the parties and the mediator."

However, LNTV may not always

find its audience so easy to please. The preview group, mainly personal injury (PI) lawyers, was highly critical of LNTV's handling of a two-part programme on structured settlements in accident cases, the first part of which will be broadcast tomorrow. Plaintiff solicitors complained that it was "pro-defendant" and did not explain that there are shortcomings as well as benefits in using structured settlements — payments by instalment — instead of traditional lump-sum awards for PI compensation.

Fraser Whitehead, a partner at Russell Jones & Walker, thought it lacked balance. "Legal education, to be of value, must be objective," he says. "Taking as a starting point a controversial legal subject and portraying it almost exclusively from one perspective is dangerous."

Grainne Barton, a solicitor with Pannone & Napier, agreed. "We did not get a balanced view of the pitfalls." Somebody else should have been there to put the negative view, Alison Eddy, a partner at Robin Thompson & Partners, dis-

liked the way the programme concentrated on the parties involved in the first-ever case to structure, *Kelly v Dawes*. "After looking at the Kelly case, they then should have gone on to look at cases where you would not be able to structure, say, where you have a wage-earner with children," she says. The group thought that such a new and controversial topic could have benefited from a round-table discussion on the merits and demerits of ADR. However, Coral Hill, who presented the programme, points out that LNTV's market research "came out against a discussion-type approach".

Only Malcolm Henke, from DAC, a defendant firm, regarded the programme as neutral. "I think the balance was about right," he says. He claims, however, to have spotted some "glaring errors" that "were not matters of opinion but of fact". Mr Henke, like many of the other previewers, objected to the programme's heavy reliance on John Frenkel, an accountant whose firm has arranged many of the

structures. Another criticism was that it was not clear enough that Mr Frenkel has a vested interest in setting up structures.

Ms Hill counters that there had been long discussion about how much to use Mr Frenkel. "The fact is that he has done more structured settlements than anyone else." She denies that Mr Frenkel's status should have been emphasised. "Yes, he does make his living from setting them up, but then, so do solicitors."

In any event, the complaints highlight what may become an area of friction: the Law Society has invested £250,000 of members' money in the project, yet has no direct control over quality or content of programmes.

The verdict generally was that the programmes were well produced. "Fresh, clean and clear" was the comment of Elizabeth Hayes, a solicitor of Rowley Ashworth, a plaintiff firm. They compared favourably to legal training videos she has watched in her native New Zealand.

Whatever their reservations about content, all agreed that television has a place in solicitors' continuing education. Frances McCarthy, a Pannone & Napier partner, says: "Instead of having to strong-arm partners into running in-house training, I can see that watching a programme then discussing it would work well."

TUNING IN

LEGAL Network Television fees are based on the numbers of lawyers employed by subscribing firms. For example, a firm with one lawyer will pay £595 a year, plus VAT.

Two half-hour programmes will be broadcast weekly. The programmes, which will go out on BBC Select's night-time service, will be encrypted for reception by subscribers only.

President Clinton wins the lawyers

The state of the union address has won approval from the legal profession on both sides of the Atlantic

Lawyers by nature are normally a pretty detached, circumspect lot, not easily moved by the mood of the moment. So their response to President Clinton's state of the union address last week has been particularly striking.

American and English lawyers alike, far from being merely relieved at the toning-down of many of the wilder protectionist proposals that had been predicted, were positively glowing with appreciation at Mr Clinton's performance. "It was very inspiring," says John McCall, the resident partner in the New York office of Freshfields. "I was most impressed." Such was the atmosphere generated by the speech that even the president's side-swipe at lawyers ("let's clean up the environment, not just pay the lawyers") was taken in good heart by Mr McCall.

Overall, the feeling among Mr McCall and his legal friends, as among other commentators, was that at long last the United States has come up with the kind of recipe needed to cut back the public spending deficit and to return to sensible economics.

Michael McNulty, an American lawyer with Whitman & Ranson in London, says: "It was an outstanding, well-focused performance, and it showed that this was a take-charge president who is going to confront the issues that his predecessors have run away from."

In the immediate aftermath of the speech, however, it was impossible to predict the consequences exactly. Every lawyer I contacted said that without seeing the fine print, it was difficult to be specific about the implications. Nonetheless, there was a broad sense that international trade would not suffer.

"Yes, the United States is going to be more aggressive with its

trading partners," Mr McNulty says, "but the risk of deterring trade is marginal." Instead, the lawyers' view was that as a consummate politician, Mr Clinton has been able to wrap himself in the flag and appeal to the ideal of sacrifice without seriously threatening America's overseas competitors and partners. He could even present himself as simply seeking to ensure that US citizens and companies get a fair deal out of the American economy along with those from elsewhere.

But although the mood is upbeat, the speech forshadowed individual companies as the government seeks to extract more money from the corporate sector.

One minor result may be that there is a small-scale move out of the US by multinational corporate headquarters and staff in order to gain tax benefits elsewhere. Britain, however, is unlikely to benefit from this.

According to Lawrence Ziman, of Nabarro Nathanson, the costs of keeping an American executive in Britain are already high and there may even be a slight contraction in the size of the American community in London as some corporate belt-tightening takes place.

UK lawyers may, therefore, see a slight downturn in corporate immigration work. Personal-tax lawyers, however, may gain business as it becomes even more worthwhile for the rich to ensure that they gain maximum tax relief on income.

Mr McNulty, says, however, that the one area in which there may be serious work is in pharmaceuticals. He was impressed by the serious tone adopted by Mr Clinton in discussing the costs of US medical provision and it is likely that pharmaceutical companies and medical practitioners alike may face real cuts in income.

One implication of this, according to Mr McNulty however, may be changes in the law to reduce the burden of professional indemnity costs for doctors. In order to make medical aid more affordable, patients may have to forgo the chance of winning a fortune in the courts every time a doctor lays hands on them.

It is too early to judge how effective will be the laying-on of President Clinton's hands on the American economy, but so far, the lawyers are giving it the thumbs-up.



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No forms of applications are issued: please forward three copies of your CV together with the names of three referees to Peter Fenn, Department of Building Engineering, UMIST, PO Box 88, Manchester M60 1QD. The closing date is 5th March 1993. For an informal discussion about the post and the research please contact Peter Fenn on 061 200 4233 or PFENN@isl.cl.umist.ac.uk

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ARTS

ROCK page 39
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plays the blues at
the Albert Hall



CINEMA: Geoff Brown on the winners and losers at this year's Berlin Film Festival

New stars rise in the East

Cannes has those glamour girls pacing the Croisette, those luminaries in scanty clothes mounting the red carpet. But if any star followed suit at the Berlin Film Festival, which closed last night, frostbite would surely follow. This year there has been little to keep Germany's paparazzi happy. No Tom Cruise. No Madonna: though we did receive visits from Billy Wilder and Gregory Peck (here for lifetime achievement awards), and an unusually subdued Spike Lee.

By Berlin standards, the festival weather was mild. The competition section remained equally mild, though strong films lurked here and there. Two of the most attractive entries, *The Woman From the Lake of Scented Souls* and *The Wedding Banquet*, came from countries not on the friendliest of terms: China and Taiwan. The competition jury found them irresistible too, and shared out the best film prize — the Golden Bear — between them.

their favours on Emir Kusturica's undisciplined *Arizona Dream* (awarded a special jury prize), Idrissa Ouedraogo's *Samba Traoré*, and a Georgian film by Temur Babluani, *The Sun of the Wakeful*. All received Silver Bears.

America took both of the acting prizes. Michelle Pfeiffer won a Silver Bear for her sweet performance as the bored Dallas housewife on a voyage of discovery in Jonathan Kaplan's *Love Field*; while Denzel Washington was chosen best actor for *Malcolm X*.

In technical terms Spike Lee's film *Malcolm X* — a worshipful three hours plus — might well be his best directed film. Washington keeps pace with the black leader's

flourish. "Hello," a boy pipes up at the start, straight to camera. "I'm Ludwig Wittgenstein." Not for Jarman the cut-and-paste aesthetic of most biographical portraits aimed at the small screen: using little but colourful clothes, a few props and a black background, he explores the life, sexuality and thinking of the linguistic philosopher with tremendous verve and clarity.

German film-makers Arpad Bondy and Margit Knapp took a less flamboyant approach in their biographical portrait *Kissing the Devil's Arse*. The subject is Norbert Schultze, the 82-year-old composer of the lugubrious second world war hit "Lili Marleen", who rose to fame during the Nazi period and never looked back. "I'm just a musician making everyday music for everyday people," he explains naively, though it is hard to view him merely as a benign tunesmith when he can sing vicious propaganda items like "Bomben auf England" as though they were harmless nursery rhymes. To their credit Bondy and Knapp never attempt any easy censure of Schultze. They listen politely, then pull back to observe from a critical distance. Despite the film-makers' reticence, Schultze's lawyer is now demanding the film's removal from public exhibition.

'If the competition section was a trudge, there were enough diversions elsewhere'

Xie Fei's *The Woman From the Lake of Scented Souls* is a gently poetic and beautifully acted Chinese tale of a middle-aged woman with a sesame oil business in a lakeside village. The business flourishes, but there is still a retarded son to marry off, an alcoholic husband to contend with, and, when time permits, a secret lover. This could easily have been a rumpaging melodrama, but Xie Fei, who made his first feature in 1978, takes the time to create believable, well-rounded characters. Mongolian-born actress Signa Gao, too, is little short of superb: she draws us right inside the heroine's predicament. This is a reflective film, kissed by human tenderness even at festivals; they do not come by very often.

One critic has already compared Taiwan's competition entry, *The Wedding Banquet*, to *Strictly Ballroom* for its winning mixture of popular comedy and serious emotions. This Manhattan wedding feast is no conventional affair. Wai Tung, the Americanised bridegroom, is gay. His bride is an art student from Shanghai in need of a Green Card. Wai Tung's visiting parents beam with pleasure, while his white lover Simon tries to be accommodating. Director Ang Lee, who studied film at New York University, adopts a crisp style ideally suited to this comedy of multiple ironies. Soggy scenes in with the plot's resolution, but not enough to spoil the meal.

Elsewhere the jury bestowed

transformation from zoot-suited wild boy to bespectacled preacher. But the hagiographical stance and lack of sufficient historical context still makes for an unduly dull and simplistic biography. Barry Levinson's *Toys*, too, proved unwieldy: a toy factory fantasy with Robin Williams, so top-heavy with whimsy, dull characters and over-elaborate effects that the film never took off from the ground.

And what of Britain? We entered the competition by the scruff of our necks with *The Cement Garden*, a German-French-British co-production adapted from Ian McEwan's novel, written and directed by Andrew Birkin. Yet the pan-European funding and presence of Charlotte Gainsbourg (Birkin's niece) did nothing to dilute the film's British spirit. For this is literary cinema par excellence.

All strengths derive from McEwan's disturbing tale of four children left to their own strange devices after the deaths of both parents. Birkin stands by, a faithful henchman, with largely unimaginative images, though a new cameraman, Stephen Blackman, shows distinct promise conjuring the hues of a sweltering summer. The jury, at least, found Birkin's visual contribution persuasive and awarded him, somewhat surprisingly, their best director prize.

But it was left to Derek Jarman's *Wittgenstein* to fly the flag with a

If the competition section overall proved something of a trudge, enough diversions surfaced elsewhere to keep people happy. A fresh breeze blew through Atom Egoyan's *Calendar*, an intriguing fancy charting a photographer's collapsing marriage as he shoots pictures of 12 historic Armenian churches for a calendar. Egoyan, of Armenian parentage, plays the photographer himself, and gives this meditation on relationships and national identity a personal force. Like *Wittgenstein*, *Calendar* is a film that knows its limits, and stops just before its mannered style can grate.

There was also *Twist*, an irresistible Canadian documentary regurgitating one of the century's most liberating dance crazes, inspired by blacks but packaged and promoted by the white American music industry. Through delicious archive footage and reminiscences from veteran hip-wrigglers like Chubby Checker, Ron Mann's film captures the daft lane of the late 1950s, when dance floors lost their ballroom demeanour and discovered the joys of gyrating bodies.



Andrew Robertson in *The Cement Garden*, which won a best director prize for Andrew Birkin

ARTS BRIEFING

Picnic by the Thames

THE skateboarders may collide with the picnic hampers, and there isn't much of a lawn to land a helicopter on. Nevertheless, Glyndebourne Opera — temporarily without a home while the new opera house is built in Sussex — has announced details of the concert performances it will be giving with the London Philharmonic in the Festival Hall in London this summer. Andrew Davis conducts Berlioz's *Béatrice et Bénédict*, spiced up with a new English narration written and spoken by John Wells, and with a cast headed by Anne Sophie von Otter, Jerry Hadley and Dawn Upshaw (June 21, 23, 25).

Beethoven's *Fidelio* is conducted by Klaus Tennstedt (June 22, 24, 26) with Julia Varady singing the title role for the first time in London. And Franz Welser-Möst conducts Lehár's *The Merry Widow* (July 18, 20, 22). Like *Béatrice*, it will be shorn of its dialogue and given a new narration, written by Tom Stoppard and spoken by Dirk Bogarde. Ticket prices are not quite in the usual Glyndebourne stratosphere, as befits non-staged performances: £45 to £8.

● BAD news from the Bolshoi Ballet, which had been booked to do a season in Norway after its extensive residency at the Albert Hall in London. The season should have opened this week, but has now been cancelled in murky circumstances. The management in Oslo changed the venue from a traditional theatre to an arena similar to the Albert Hall. The logistics of getting the sets and costumes there to open last night apparently proved impossible, and the Bolshoi management cancelled the entire season. The company's tours later this year to Italy, Germany and Japan will go ahead as planned.

Last chance...

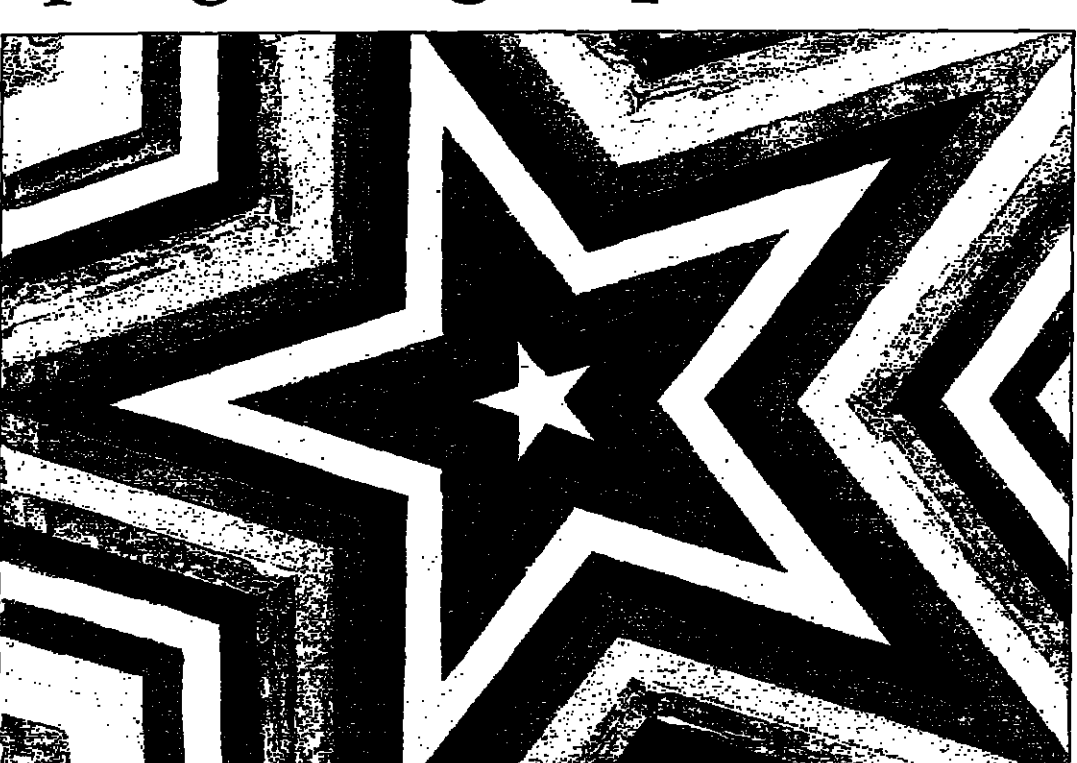
IN 1924, J.R. Ackley wrote *Prisoners of War*, the first 20th-century play to raise the taboo subject of homosexual love. Astonishingly, it passed the censor, who did not make that mistake again for another 40 years. The revival at the New End Theatre, Hampstead (071-794 0022, ends Sunday), with Ashley Russell as the love-struck Captain, is more than mere historical curiosity, though it is enjoyable on that level, deciphering the coded references. Production and performances enter into the spirit of a vanished world of tortuous emotional restraint.

GALLERIES: Richard Cork reviews an 'Old Master of Minimalism' in Oxford; and Spain acquires part of one of the world's greatest private collections

Developing along unpredictable lines

In 1958, after working as a graphic artist in L.M. Pei's architectural firm, the young Sol LeWitt made some ink studies of Piero della Francesca's frescoes in Arezzo. Hung at the beginning of Oxford Museum of Modern Art's LeWitt retrospective, these swift and daring tributes to a master of quattrocento figure painting come as a surprise. They allow us to glimpse an unpredictable influence at work in the formative years of an artist who, over the next decade, would become a stern exponent of minimal abstraction.

But surprise soon gives way to a sense of inevitability. For Piero was obsessed by order, clarity and control. So is LeWitt, even if he decided in the early 1960s to challenge the Renaissance tradition and forge an art radically removed from representation. A series of freely brushed ink studies, all austere and called *Working Drawings*, show him concentrating on a purist notion of form, favouring primary structures based on simple, mostly cubic units.



A new emphasis on warmth and solidity: LeWitt's *Five Pointed Star with Bands of Colour*, 1991

By 1963 they had become sculptural, jutting out from the wall in a series of steadily expanding diamond forms. And the following year, in a quirky homage to the serial photographer Edward Muybridge, a wide black wall-box invited the viewer to peer, voyeur-like, at the images within. Flashing lights, set off by a timer-switch next to the sculpture, illuminate a seated female in the first compartment. But she gradually moves nearer as we pass from one peep-hole to the next, and by the end a close-up of her navel has become little more than an abstract dot. Apart from negating the notion of treating a woman just as a body, the sculpture sums up LeWitt's journey from figurative art to pure form.

All the same, sculpture did not dominate his work at the expense of drawing. LeWitt has continued to draw with prolific intensity, and the results bring us closer to the essence of his unflinching vision than the three-dimensional work ever can.

Alongside the preparatory studies for sculpture, a new kind of independent drawing appeared in the late 1960s. Its emergence coincided with LeWitt's decision to argue openly for the development of Conceptual Art, and propose "the idea of the artist as a thinker and originator of ideas rather than

as a craftsman". In terms of drawings, his mature priorities are announced by the titles he employs. *Lines in Four Directions*, *Each in a Quarter of a Square* is the name of a classic 1969 ink study, where an upright sequence is followed, clockwise, by a horizontal and two kinds of diagonal. It sounds simple enough, but the outcome looks unexpectedly complex, even mysterious.

Plans for wall works remind us that he now began producing spectacular mural-size drawings in private and public spaces, with

assistants either partially or wholly carrying out his written instructions. But the smaller images on view here are all executed by LeWitt himself, and their hair's-breadth delicacy can be astonishing. Colour is introduced, enlivening the previous sobriety with a restrained reliance on pale yellow, blue, green, brown and pink.

A lesser artist might easily have turned such a systematic programme into an arid, numbing exercise. But LeWitt never becomes trapped inside the procedures he adopts. He has tirelessly experi-

mented with a prodigious array of variations. Some are so intricate that they border on the hallucinatory — especially when he mixes grids, circles and arcs with formidable dexterity. But he is equally capable of paring his work down to an extreme geometric simplicity, and over the last decade an increasing reliance on freely handled stripes of sumptuous colour has developed.

The old preference for aseptic purity gives way, most arrestingly in a *Five-Pointed Star* series, to a new emphasis on warmth and solidity. *Gouache* is now the most favoured medium, and a group of 1991 *Cube* and *Pyramid* drawings come very close to the sculpture he has also been producing in recent years.

Unlike the labyrinthine structures he used to make, following sequential permutations with rigorous care, these later sculptures stake everything on large, simplified forms. In this respect, LeWitt's sculpture has developed as dramatically as his drawing. The colossal 1983 *Complex Form No 8* dominating the main upstairs gallery sounds a new note of unabashed grandeur. Each of the pristine, interlinked forms in white-painted wood presides over the space like icebergs in an Arctic waste. Juxtaposed with the open, intricate structure of five modular pieces made in 1972, they prove that the Old Master of Minimalism has never been content to reiterate his past work. Now in his sixties, LeWitt is still extending himself, still dedicated to transformation rather than a complacent repetition of the art that first ensnared him in the history-books.

● Sol LeWitt Structures and Drawings at the Oxford Museum of Modern Art (0865 722733) until March 28

Madrid strikes a baronial bargain

If you are his fifth wife, how do you convince the heirs of one of the world's richest men — his four children by three of his four previous marriages — to part with a huge slice of their inheritance, which happens to be the most important private art collection in the world after the Queen's? This is just what Carmen Cervera, a former Miss Spain, is about to achieve, and the beneficiary will not be herself but her country.

For a mere 31,000 million pesetas (£184 million) Spain is buying 800 works of the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection valued at roughly 300,000 million pesetas (£1,775 million). The purchase price includes an allowance for Spain's initial gamble in the venture: £24 million spent rebuilding the Villahermosa Palace and £29 million for the nine-and-a-half-year loan of the collection. "I think that

practically every mainstream school and period in the history of painting up to 1960, with astonishing masterpieces in each, is represented," says Tomas Llorens, the curator.

It was Baron Hans Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza, 71, and his wife, 49, who first broke the news last week that all the works now on show in Madrid will belong to Spain within a few months. The Baroness said the deal would be clinched "within 45 days", while the Baron said: "nationally, it will be in about two months, or perhaps three." Rodrigo Uribe, Spain's legal negotiator, says "the Spanish side is waiting for the Thyssen group to formally provide all the evidence and renouncements necessary for an operation whose essential conditions are agreed."

EDWARD OWEN



Baron and Baroness Thyssen: all the works from their art collection now on show in Madrid will soon belong to Spain

LONDON

TURANDOT: Andrei Serban's reliable production gets another airing at the Royal Opera House, Glyneth Jones, one of the great Turandots, returns in the role (except tomorrow, when Glyneth Jones steps in). Mark Emmer conducts. See review, p. 38.

BT NEW CONTEMPORARIES: The works in this annual show by new graduates, or second or third-year students at an art school, have been selected this year by Guy Brett, Derek Jarmen and Marina Warner. Selection of the artists are women, and while a number make undecipherable installations, there is also an estimable amount of painting and sculpture. ICA, The Mall, SW1 (071-930 3477). Daily, midday-7.30pm (Tues to Sat). From today to Mar 28.

ANNA KARENINA: Shared Experience's award-winning adaptation of Tolstoy's novel. The story of Anna's despair as she is shunned by society for giving up her husband and child to live with a lover, and of hope, as Nelly loves an idealist. Recommended. ICA, The Mall, SW1 (071-930 3477). Daily, midday-7.30pm (Tues to Sat). From today to Mar 28.

THE MAGIC FUNDOSH: Oriental theatre company Mu-Lan presents three Krugan plays, comic sketches that brought a bit of joy to a high school play. A "fantasy piece of comedy". Lyric Studio, King Street, W6 (081-741 8701). Preview tonight, tomorrow, 8pm. Open Thurs 7pm, then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Sat, 4.30pm.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT GALLERY: The new permanent display consists of the only complete interior by Lloyd

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Heather Alston

Wright anywhere in Europe. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1088/1911). Tonight-Wed, Fri, 7.30pm.

SCHUBERT: As part of the International Piano Series, Richard Goode plays three sonatas by the Austrian composer. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-426 8800). Tonight, 7.45pm.

JAN GABRIEL: MICROSOL VIDEOS AND PETER BRISQING: The exceptional, bassist and drummer make their London debut tonight after their collaboration last year on the successful album *St. John*. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

DON GIOVANNI: Classic FM combines with Opera Box to bring Mozart to the citizens of Hackney. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

MURDER IS EASY: Nigel Davenport and Peter Capaldi in the first Agatha Christie adaptation for a decade. Death stalks a cosy English village; an amateur sleuth follows the clues. Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-438 5122). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Thurs, Sat, 3pm.

MANCINI ARGENTIA: The soprano, with Ensemble Somera and Monica Huggett, will perform with the

Weicher, including Schellen and Jachowicz in a production of the David Reichenberg Trust. Holy Trinity Church, St Giles, W1 (01-475 2299). Tonight, 7.30pm.

REGIONAL
ABERYSTWYTH: Simon Pettle conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No 6, *Sibelius's Symphony No 7* and the Suite from Bartók's *The Miraculous Mandarin*. Grand Hall, Arts Centre, University College of Wales (0870 622222). Tonight, 8pm.

GLASGOW: Peter Brook's Impressions de Pelléas, a small-scale recording of Debussy's Pelléas et Mélisande, receives its only UK performance in Glasgow. The music has been adapted for two players, and the piece has been compressed into the space of 100 minutes. Tramway, Albert Drive, (01-222 5511). Tonight-Sat, 8pm.

MANCHESTER: Award-winning Plain Clothes Productions starts tour of Phil Smith's "brutal comedy of impossible love" *Mrs Caudle's Organisation of Love*, set in Rome in the 1930s and 1940s. Walker Theatre, Havelock School, Cecil Road (0202 628181). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

SHEFFIELD: The Lindsey String Quartet plays music by Haydn, Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky. Crucible Theatre, Norfolk Street, (01422 765222). Tonight, 7.45pm.

NOTTINGHAM: The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra under Lior Pesek perform a programme including excerpts from Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 3 and Beethoven's Symphony Fantastique. Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Square, (01922 452222). Tonight, 7.30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
■ Some seats available
■ Seats at all prices

■ BARNIM: Agnieszka Shaw's work, with Paul Nicholas walking the high wire. Boney rubens for Coleman and Michael Stewart. Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-884545). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat, Wed and Sat, 3pm, 10.30pm. Fri, 10.30pm.

■ CAROUSEL: Joanna Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphal revival of the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical. National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2222). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat, Wed, Sat, 2.15pm, 10.30pm.

■ LE CIRQUE INVISIBLE: Victoria Chapman and Jean Baptiste Thiriet return with their troupe of acrobats, clowns and other performers in an evocative, engaging new family show. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (071-746 3354). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, 10.30pm.

■ ENZO MARCHETTO: The master of quick-change original cabaret, with impressions from Mirella Lea to Madonna and every artist in between. Whitelash, Whitehall, SW1 (01-867 1113). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8pm and 9pm, mat, Thurs, 4pm, 10.30pm.

■ ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE: Back, pointed review of OTO's first success, with Jane Dale and Ian Gelder as a subtly amusing brother-and-sister team. Greenhead, Chichester, SE10 (01858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat, Sat, 2.30pm, 10.30pm.

■ THE GIFT OF THE GORGON: Peter Shaffer's latest bloodthirsty revenge story (premiered on a modern Greek island, *Deceit*, issues, *It's treatment* but just *Deceit* is powerful. The P. Barbican Centre, St. Paul, EC2 (01-438 8881). Tonight, 8.30pm, 10.30pm, 10.30pm.

■ HAMLET: Kenneth Branagh superb in Adrian Noble's first-class production. Unicorn, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-438 8881). Tonight, 8.30pm, 10.30pm, 10.30pm.

■ HAY FEVER: Very funny performance (not always where you expect) in Coward's comedy. Unicorn, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-438 8881). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Thurs, Sat, 10.30pm.

■ AN IDEAL HUSBAND: Anna Carter, Hamish Gorden and Martin Shaw in Mike's "insider" comedy. Unicorn, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-438 8881). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Thurs, Sat, 10.30pm.

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THEATRE: Jeremy Kingston admires a handsome staging of an Oscar Wilde adaptation

Evil bargain beautifully drawn

The Picture of Dorian Gray
Citizens, Glasgow

WILDE's novella is only 150 pages long but it is thick with images, arguments of a sort and chatter, much of which Philip Prowse manages to press into his dense adaptation. He even includes Dorian's quaint expectations of debauchery, colourful but vague intentions to sit by Tiberyus and feast with panthers. These longings break from Henry Ian Cusick's chiselled lips when he observes the expression on his portrait coarsening after the rejection of his little actress. The discovery that he can escape the ravages of indulgence as well as age is what sets him on his wicked course, as though physical appearances were the only curb to passions. In Wilde's book a major source of corruption lies in the French novel that Lord Henry lends him: for Prowse there is evil in Dorian's nature that only requires a miracle—a portrait that bears the sins of its subject—to be released.

This notion explains why Prowse chooses to have Dorian pose as Jesus on the cross, even though this pose, when viewed from any distance, does not lend itself to revealing horrible details of decay. We are given patches of blood, and the last leg drops off, but the grim fascination of watching beauty and grace steadily turn into a bloated horror has gone.

However, the portrait is exotically enclosed within a triptych of huge mirrors that really do reflect and images of time abound. A clock-face ceiling sits above a clock-face floor while figures of Death drive hansom cabs around the circumference. To be

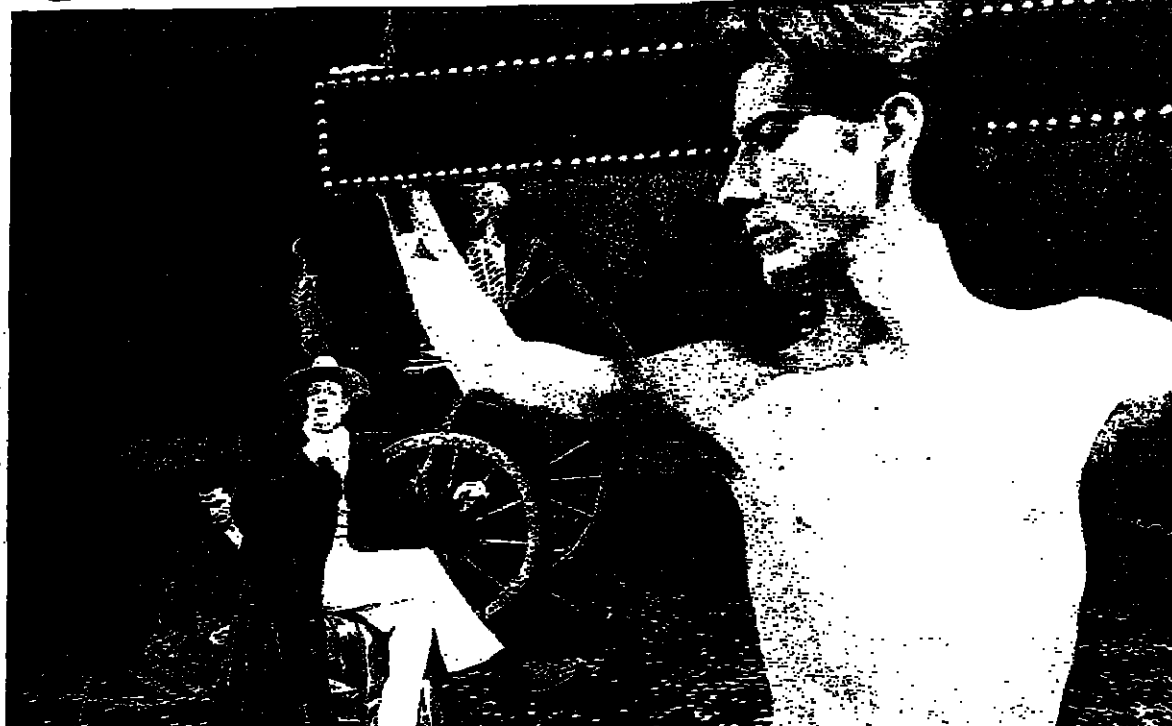
consistent, they should eventually be driving jeeps since Dorian survives from the 1890s to expire in the Blitz. Small wonder that Rupert Everett's Lord Henry degenerates from a young dandy in a fur coat to a chalk-faced invalid dressed as a dowager too which was always on the cards even though Dorian's sexual sins are always nameless. "What about Adrian Singleton, and his dreadful end?" asks the painter, Basil Hallward, in his catalogue of accusations. It sounds more like a Sherlock Holmes story Watson never got around to writing.

The character of the Sailor is woodenly acted but the three principals are active and alert. Everett speaks in a strangled voice that seems to have exhausted itself in the effort to clamber through his larynx. Very dandyish, and in reply to Dorian's talk of duty his "Ah" carries a wealth of jaundiced experience. Wilde cannot make Basil show his hand openly, so he sounds ignorant and knowing in rapid succession. Gerrard McArthur wisely ignores the contradiction and the split actually reinforces the novel's separation of art from morals.

Cusick's Dorian presents a sweet naivety at the beginning and solves the problem of a character who changes but never shows it by rasping the edge of his voice, adding harshness to his stare. He manages to suggest an understanding of the diction that nothing can cure the soul but the senses, which is more than I can do.

By pulling red, then black, then bloodstained curtains across the stage Prowse changes scenes elegantly and rapidly, qualities of this production as of the book: grace, sparkle and emptiness.

Dorian Gray poses as Christ: Henry Ian Cusick (right), Bambos Karayannis (left) and Rupert Everett



Dorian Gray poses as Christ: Henry Ian Cusick (right), Bambos Karayannis (left) and Rupert Everett

Each one prepared the ear and the spirit quite wonderfully for what was to come. The first, in Maisenberg's hands, hummed itself into its long melodic existence, the second rushed in, containing within its own spontaneous combustion the fire to fuel the rest of the programme. Maisenberg is an exceptional Schubert pianist, like András Schiff, his life as a chamber musician and accompanist feeds both his fingers and his sensibility.

The sense of continuous movement within an underlying stillness which Maisenberg has created in his first piece was continued by Holl in his first song, the "Liebesnacht", without a trace of self-consciousness or artifice. In a manner now shunned by his younger contemporaries, Holl uses his hands, arms, indeed his entire body to live out the movement of the song.

Holl's huge baritone has now reached a degree of refinement which can trace with silverpoint the elusive ascents and descents, the major and the minor of a song such as "Ständchen". Yet a true core base is there to reach the very heart of darkness of the exiled soldier in "Kriegers Ahnung", and to stand aghast at the apparition which is the self in "Der Doppelgänger".

HILARY FINCH

PROMOTED as Russia's first international orchestra for 75 years, Ensemble XXI Moscow was founded in 1989 by two graduates of the Tchaikovsky conservatoire in that city.

The fact that neither founder was Russian (both are also women) says much for the international inspiration of the ensemble. Its members come from home and abroad, though all live in Moscow. Last Thursday night's concert at St John's Smith Square marked the UK debut.

The orchestra's founder members are the Irish conductor Lygia O'Riordan and the Finnish violinist Pia Siirala, who leads the band. Appearances may be misleading, but there was to my ears something of O'Riordan's businesslike platform manner about the music-making, too. Stravinsky's *Apollon Musagete* was smoothly and professionally executed.

Barry Millington

but without any real rhythmic energy. Dvořák's *Serenade for Strings* had a similarly unruffled surface, but again, in the finale in particular, the Czech rhythm failed to pulsate.

This conductor has a good ear for balance and the ensemble plays with impressive if not quite immaculate precision. But a movement like the *Tempo di Valse* needs more air, more rubato, to bring it to life. In Mozart's *Divertimento in D, K.136*, it was at least possible here to regard the restraint as consonant with 18th-century practice: this chamber piece is better served by leanness of tone and understatement than by overripe Romantic gestures.

Receiving its UK premiere was Arvo Pärt's *Introductory Prayers*, written for Ensemble XXI and first performed last year at its summer residence in Ilomants, Finland. The work was inspired by the opening prayers of the orthodox Mass and may also be sung by a choir.

Making much use of open-fifth chords and modal progressions, it sounds at times like an East European *Tallis Fantasia*. The austerity and incantatory spirit are recognisably Pärt, though by comparison with other works of his the material is rather thin.

BARRY MILLINGTON

LONDON CONCERTS: A fine Schubert recital; and a British debut by an international band from Moscow

Heir most apparent

Holl/Maisenberg
Queen Elizabeth Hall

THE recently announced retirement of Dietrich Fischer-Diskau is a little easier to bear in the light of the ascendancy of Robert Holl. The two baritones could hardly be more dissimilar in their stage presence. Yet among Liedersingers of his generation, none but Holl creates that sense of profound engagement and urgent communication which characterised the artistry of Fischer-Diskau.

Last Friday's recital with the Russian pianist Oleg Maisenberg came at the centre of the South Bank's Schubert series and justified its entire existence. Here were Schubert's posthumously published *Schwanengesang*, the settings of the poet Rellstab neatly separated from those of Heine, and each group prefaced by one of the D946 *Klavierstücke*, the single movement piano pieces that are among the wonders of Schubert's last months.

LONG RUNNERS: □ Blood Brothers: Phoenix (071-937 1044). □ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-937 1317). □ Cade: New London (071-405 0072). □ Don't Dress for Dinner: Duchess (071-494 5045). □ Five Guys Named Mon: UCI (071-494 5045). □ It Rains in the Family: Playhouse (071-839 4401). □ Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat: Palladium (071-494 5037). □ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0008). □ Mamma Mia!: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400). □ The Norman Conquest: St Martin's (071-438 1443). □ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400). □ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-826 8855). □ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Michael Rastburn, ICA (071-930 3847).

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Puccini's peerless princess

Turandot
Covent Garden

role. The top notes shine like lasers, the tone steady as a rock, and the sheer volume is stunning. As the first line of "In questa reggia" rings out like steel, you wonder stylishly whether she will consider starting softly, as the composer implies, but as the aria progresses, you realise that by her standards it was soft.

This is a phenomenal performance beyond criticism. Well, not quite: were she able to breathe less often and less obtrusively, the musical time could blossom more fully.

Her Calaf is Vladimir Popov. He has the notes—not many tenors today

have—and his mannerisms are rather endearing. He is given to rubbing his nose, like a talisman, before high notes (it seems to work), tossing his head in triumph when he hits them, and addressing nearly all his lines straight at the audience, regardless of whom he might be in conversation with at any given time. As a demonstration of the Art of Coarse Opera Performance, it is really rather

The Romanian soprano Angela Cheorghiu (last season's Mimì) is singing her first *Lit*. There is a good soprano edge to her essentially lyric

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Still taking arms against troubled seas

John Kani, bringing Athol Fugard's new play to London, tells Matt Wolf about apartheid's lasting legacy

Ten o'clock on a Johannesburg summer morning, and an apologetic John Kani finds himself double-booked. In the Market Theatre foyer sits a visiting journalist from England, to which the South African actor returns this week in the Athol Fugard two-hander *Playland*. Meanwhile, in a nearby café, Kani's Market Theatre colleagues open the latest in a series of meetings to chart the troubled theatre's course in the new South Africa. Elsewhere, faxes from Chicago's Goodman Theatre enquire about Kani's availability for the revival of the 1949 Kurt Weill's

Zoele, the Xhosa nightwatchman at a Karoo funfair, and Sean Taylor's white Gideon le Roux, an erstwhile corporal reliving his escapades in South Africa's "killing fields". The two men, it transpires, share a past defined by violence and their burgeoning affinity strikes a symbolic note for amity arising from years of accumulated discord.

"These are the unsung heroes: the common people no historian will ever write about," Kani says. "These guys don't find each other easy; at first they don't even want to talk, but Athol leaves very open the hope that they might meet again."

'We are now being asked to write about a new South Africa that is non-existent'

The play had its world premiere last July at the Market, receiving the best reviews of any Johannesburg production that year, but its success on home turf has remained surprisingly elusive. At the Market it played to an average 75 per cent of capacity, well below the same venue's attendance levels of the British import *Shad-*

owlands. Moving to Cape Town, *Playland* received a cool reception and cut short its run. While American and English audiences may eagerly await the newest Fugard-Kani offering (the last one, *My Children! My Africa!*, brought them off Broadway and to the National Theatre) those at home, it seems, are somewhat more diffident.

Kani places this fact in the context of a country whose current aesthetic taste runs towards escapism rather than self-examination: Ray Cooney's farce *It Runs in the Family* is a hotly awaited Johannesburg opening.

"Certain people feel uncomfortable with the questions put to them," he says. "Whenever you put a play that pricks the conscience on the stages of South Africa you are dealing with a white minority that is very scared of change — because change, in their definition, means the loss of a lot of privileges and a fear of the unknown, of the massive black majority."

Moreover, a dwindling white audience clamours for an end to so-called "protest" theatre, without realising that black South Africa continues to offer up countless stories worth telling. "It is like some kind of conspiracy to sell the dream of a changed South Africa within the media, as opposed to revealing the reality on the ground," Kani says. "We are now being asked to write about a new South Africa that is non-existent yet, and when we write about yesterday, we are accused of hanging on to protest theatre."

"At night, all I hear are the heavy diesel trucks of the police army and, if I don't hear them, I can't fall asleep; where are the cops, where are the soldiers? And yet if I write any play that reflects all this, I am told I am behind the times, that the country is changing."

The second of nine children, born in the Eastern Cape, Kani has felt the particularly brutal effects of apartheid. In 1985 his younger brother was shot and killed on his way home from a funeral organised by an ANC affiliate; an older brother spent five years in prison on Cape Town's Robben Island. For Kani, who left his job at a Ford motor plant to try his luck as an actor, the theatre was a way of expressing himself. "I never got into this profession because I wanted to be famous. I had a political agenda. I knew the theatre could be used to give people their voice, their dignity, so that they would never forget they were once free and can still be free."

Kani first worked with Fugard on a 1965 play, *The Coat*, and he calls their relationship "a blessing — a commitment from a white man of decency, of all that is good in this country. I knew he spoke deep from inside, that he wasn't writing because he wanted me to think he is a nice whitey."

In 1974, Kani and Ntshona shared Broadway's Best Actor Tony award for the *Slave Banzi* double-bill, but Kani resisted all entreaties to move abroad: "When the chips came down, there was still a stronger pull here. I felt I could achieve more here."

Now, married and with six children of his own, Kani is expanding his career. Beyond his international stage work, he is moving into films (*Sarafina!*), and, as a director, into television commercials.

At the Market he wears numerous caps as trustee, patron, co-associate director, and director of the studio Laboratory. There is talk of an all-black *Uncle Vanya* and a *Cherry Orchard* to be directed by Janet Suzman, as well as a *Macbeth* to follow his recent and much-acclaimed *Othello*.



John Kani: "I never got into this profession because I wanted to be famous. I had a political agenda"

TELEVISION REVIEW

Stones left unturned

Poor scholarship spoils a diverting attempt to recreate the pyramids

If the Egyptians were so clever, how come they didn't invent the wheel? A block and tackle would have made assembling the pyramids so much easier.

Technology is so pervasive today that it is hard to imagine a sophisticated culture existing without it. Yet both the Egyptians and the Greeks, clever scientists as they may have been, were absolute beginners at technology. Last night's *Horizon* on BBC2 made an amusing attempt to recreate the difficulties faced by the pyramid builders of 2,600 BC. Dr Mark Lehner, from the University of Chicago, and stonemason Roger Hopkins set about creating a real Egyptian pyramid, albeit on a smaller scale. The great pyramid at Giza contains two million blocks of stone, and covers 13 acres; Lehner and Hopkins were building a tiny pyramid with fewer than 200 stones.

For reasons unexplained, they had only a few weeks to do it, with the help of a vociferous army of Egyptian stonemasons and quarrymen. Various theories were put to the test. In the absence of wheels, could the heavy blocks be slid on wooden runners along a track made of wetted sleepers? To the surprise of the labour force, they could.

The key problem, though, was finding a way of raising the blocks to the second and higher levels. Many theories have been advanced to explain how this was done, from levers to sheer brute force. The likeliest answer, as *Horizon* showed, was the building of a ramp circling around the pyramid, up which the blocks could be slid.

Lehner made light work of the other great mysteries of pyramid building. He dismissed the idea that the great blocks of stone had been quarried miles away and floated down the Nile, pointing to evidence of quarrying in the very shadow of the Great Pyramid. Yet if this was so obvious, why have Egyptologists not spotted it before?

At this and other moments last night, I felt we were not getting full value from *Horizon's* reputation as a science series. True, it was entertaining, but the scholarship was thin, and explanations lacking. There was the

sense that some diverting film had been put together to make a programme, rather than to illuminate the truth. That may be good enough for most series, but *Horizon* traditionally aims higher.

The clue came in the credits, where it appeared that the film had been made by WGBH in Boston, and re-cut in London. *Horizon's* collaboration with the Boston station is longstanding and generally beneficial — but here, too many



The real thing: a pyramid at Giza

questions had been ducked. Who was paying for the construction? Why? People don't simply wander into Egypt, whistle up a crew of labourers and build a pyramid on small change.

For all that, it was fun watching from a safe distance as the men, chanting and shouting, hauled the great blocks into place, and the stonemason in charge began ever so gently to lose his temper with the archaeologists who kept suggesting better ways of doing things. In the end, he muddled through, making it up as he went along. No doubt, on a considerably larger scale, that is what the ancient Egyptians did too.

Finally, in a terrifying display of muscle power, the workmen carted the crowning stone to the top like a Pope on his palanquin. It tottered and tipped, but was eventually laid in place, to general rejoicing: good fun, but dubious Egyptology.

NIGEL HAWKES

ROCK CONCERTS: Caroline Sullivan is thrilled by blues with soul, less so by blue-eyed soul

God gets his mojo working

It hardly seems possible that it is already time for Eric Clapton's annual Albert Hall meet-the-public exercise. Has he not just completed the last one? At any rate, this time he is booked in for 12 nights (until March 7), performing his Rhythm & Blues show. The blues emphasis reflects the success of last year's unplugged album, an acoustic set.

Eric Clapton
Royal Albert Hall

Clapton, who has become the blues' biggest star, has no frills verging on austere approach might have been a revelation to younger fans, had any been present on Sunday. The place was mostly populated by those old enough to remember Clapton's many previous incarnations, including his stint as "God". They seemed glad to see each other. Clapton settled on to a chair, picked up an acoustic guitar,

announced that what was to follow would trace the blues from the 1920s onward, and got to work. "Layla", someone called. "Next year," Clapton replied.

The first segment of the 30-song show featured Clapton and pianist Chris Stainton picking out the Delta blues of Robert Johnson and Leroy Carr. Purists might argue that Clapton's voice is neither sufficiently melancholy nor languid to convey basic blues properly. He sounded fine, though. There was enough grit in his vocal on "From Four till Late" to convince you that he had been there, done that (whatever "that" was).

For the next section he was abetted by Richie Hayward, the Little Feet drummer, and guitarist Andy Fairweather-Low. They covered a clutch of hard-edged Chicago classics, among them "Macon's 32-20" and the rollicking instrumental "Chicago Breakdown". Clapton switched to electric guitar for Robert Johnson's "Walkin' Blues". This is the prototype for every blues number ever written about waking up in the morning and feeling terrible. Clapton picked out the melody delicately, his approach as fresh as if he had not played it thousands of times before.



Called to the 12-bar: Eric Clapton's annual Albert Hall residency finds him in fine form

At this point the rest of his group ambled on, the lighting obligingly turned blue, and they eased into raw-throated versions of Jimmy Rogers's "Blues, Leave Me Alone" and Howlin' Wolf's "Meet Me In

The Bottom". On the former, Fairweather-Low sang lead with a strangled sensuality that belied his boss's more modulated efforts.

The Creamesque "Goin' Away Baby" saw Clapton in his element: relaxed, yet utterly impassioned. This absorbing, sometimes lovely show proved that he is still a contender.

turn. He did not succumb to what must have been a terrible temptation to let rip, but rounded out the sound with subtle jazz fills. Only on "A Taste of Things to Come" (introduced, rather ominously, as "a chance for the boys to have a blow") did he, and the others, veer into overwrought-funk terrain. The pair were amiable hosts who said hello to their parents out there and revealed they were imminently leaving for California to make a video. This observer was won over by their bonhomie. The music, however, was something else. Their recent West Coast sojourn has imparted a deeper sheen to their already lustrous music. What is needed now is a sense of excitement.

Rather too far west

Go West
Hammersmith
Apollo

brassy strains of their 1985 hit, "Don't Look Down". When that one was recorded, the British charts were alive with white men grinning their way through slickly impassioned "soul". Music has moved on, but Go West have remained oblivious to fashion's cruel caprices: the next song, 1992's "Faithful", could have been written at the same time as "Don't Look Down".

Cox owns an excellent and mellifluous voice that was probably aged in

oak casks. It encompassed the demands of both funk workouts such as "That's What Love Can Do" and full-cream ballads like "Goodbye, Girl". He complemented the lot with the appropriate body language: the importuning gaze and outstretched hands semaphored "earnest soulman at work".

He and Drummie (who shuttled between guitar and keyboards) were backed by a ten-piece band, of whom saxophonist Frank Mead was the star

GLASGOW CONCERT

Henze's stag night

SECURITY at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall is so tight that one has to rely on leaks and rumours to find out what is going on. It could be, after all, the activity of Glasgow 1990 and the hall's opening season, that there is comparatively little to reveal. But a hint from BBC Scotland that there might be an interesting premiere in the hall at the weekend turned out to have some truth in it.

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra did give the first British performance of Hans Werner Henze's *La Selva Incantata*. It was an interesting occasion, too, even though the score is not entirely new. Compiled for the reopening of Frankfurt Opera in 1991, it does indicate that Henze has not forgotten the uncomplicated creative genius who wrote a string of lyrical operas in the 1950s. *King Stag* not the least inspired of them.

Indeed, he puts a little too much faith in that early genius. The first section, based on Leandros' aria in the fourth scene of *King Stag*, makes an attractive orchestral sound. The once-vocal line is now passed from instrument to instrument and through a variety of cleverly blended textures and colours.

The problem arises in the second part. A rondo based on a wild hunt in the opera's last scene, it was effective in its theatrical context. But in the concert hall it has no evident purpose and little atmosphere — in spite of the advocacy of the current Henze specialist, Markus Stenz.

GERALD LARNER

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AMONG the paraphernalia on sale in the foyer was a manly denim shirt, the Go West logo discreetly embroidered on the pocket, yours for £30. It neatly embodied the duo's commitment to polished-but-sensible soul. The material was pre-faded to a light blue, perfect for showing off the sweat of a day's honest toil.

Strangely, vocalist Peter Cox and his guitarist partner, Richard Drummie, were not wearing the shirts. They were outfitted in sleek casual wear that implied an intimate familiarity with Los Angeles recording studios and it was this glossier side of Go West that was on display last Friday night.

Handsome and blow-dried as models, Drummie and Cox strode on to the

Ngugi faces four-year ban after refusing test

By JOHN GOODBODY

JOHN Ngugi, of Kenya, the five-time world cross country champion, faces a four-year suspension after refusing to give a urine sample in an out-of-competition test conducted by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF).

Ngugi, who won the 1988 Olympic 5,000 metres, said he had declined to give the sample because the IAAF team that visited his rural home in Nyahururu, 190 miles north of Nairobi, did not identify itself.

"I could not entrust my life to strangers," he said. "I have always

been tested before or after competition and I am prepared to be tested any time by the IAAF."

The Kenyan Amateur Athletics Association (KAAA) barred Ngugi from taking part in the national cross-country championships last weekend. The event was used to select the team for the world championships in Spain on March 28.

Ngugi, who won the title for a fifth time in Boston last year, said he had never taken drugs and did not know how serious the refusal was until he was stopped from taking part in the meeting.

John Whetton, of Britain, the 1969 European 1,500 metres champion,

was chief sampling officer of the IAAF team that visited Ngugi. He said he would be forwarding his report to the world governing body.

An IAAF spokesman said yesterday: "We are satisfied that he did identify himself, both with his licence and a special letter." The IAAF annually tests, unannounced, between 500 and 600 leading athletes.

David Okeyo, secretary-general of the KAAA, said he thought Ngugi had acted out of ignorance but would issue a statement after meetings with the athlete and the IAAF team.

Meanwhile, FIH, the international weightlifting federation, said it will not pursue the cases of Andrew

Saxon and Andrew Davies, the two Britons who were sent home from the Barcelona Olympics after failing out-of-competition tests. They were subsequently exonerated by the British Amateur Weightlifters' Association (BAWLA).

Wally Holland, the BAWLA secretary, said yesterday that the issue had been raised at an FIH executive meeting in Egypt last week but the world governing body was satisfied with the explanation of BAWLA as to why it had taken no further action over the two lifters, who tested positive for clenbuterol.

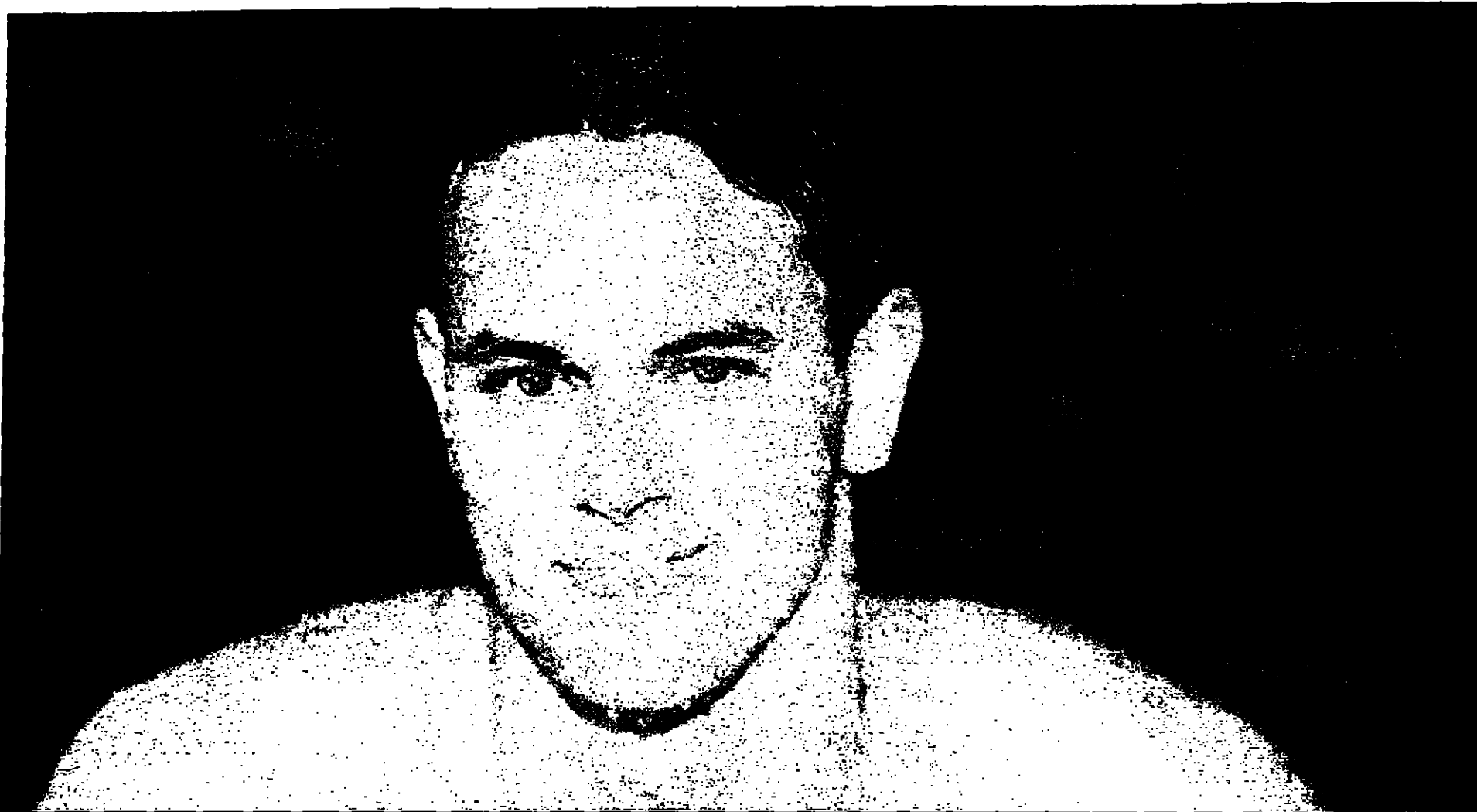
At the time Saxon and Davies were tested, it is debatable whether

clenbuterol was a banned drug. Holland added: "The attitude of the FIH justifies the BAWLA decision in not taking further action. The lifters remain free to compete both in Britain and internationally."

It was believed that the International Olympic Committee, whose medical commission confirmed on July 31 that clenbuterol was a banned substance, would put pressure on the FIH to suspend the pair.

Katrin Krabbe, the 1991 world 100 and 200 metres champion, and her fellow Germans, Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr, have been suspended for four years for taking the drug, but are to appeal.

Foster fires warning to rest of the world



Looking forward: Foster faces a bright future after a superb run of success in the seven-round World Cup short-course series. Photograph: Anton Wain/Allsport

The whisper went round the pool in Milan — "That's Foster, the British boy" — as 6ft 6in and 14st 6lb of pure sprinter, with an English rose and Olympic rings tattooed patriotically on his chest, drifted by. British, certainly. Boy he is not, neither in physique nor now in stature after emerging from the World Cup series as the fastest man to move through water.

This has been a winter season of plenty for Mark Foster. From Paris to Gelsenkirchen, Sheffield and Milan, at the weekend, the 22-year-old who was largely ignored when he finished sixth at the Barcelona Olympics has embarked on a two-week scalp-taking tour of Europe, where the last five stages of the seven-round short-course (25 metre) cup have been held.

Three victories in the Paris pool where Johnny Weissmuller won his first Olympic title in 1924 fired the warning shots. First to fall were the world record at 50 metres butterfly (23.72sec) and European record at 50 metres freestyle (21.72sec) in Germany. But it was at the Ponds Forge pool in Sheffield last Wednesday that Foster finally landed the big one, the world

short-course record at 50 metres freestyle (21.60sec). That achievement instantly lifted Foster's head above the sea of world-class swimmers and opens the door to a wider fame and fortune.

For now, \$7,000 in World Cup prize-money is all the financial reward he will get for being 50 metres champion. On the flight home from Italy yesterday, he peered down the aircraft to the first-class compartment where the rock group, Duran Duran, lounged. "I don't suppose I'll ever be in their league but things have to be looking up from now on."

That the man who could not be beaten at 50 metres by Aleksandr Popov, the Olympic champion, on the three occasions they met, and shows promise of doing the same at 100 metres, the blue riband event, will earn more than the £6,000 he receives in grants and Speedo sponsorship is not in doubt. Interest is already building up, with model agencies among those to have made contact.

Foster is the Gary Lineker of swimming: good-looking, gentle, polite — an ambassador of the sport. It has not always been so. He first took the plunge with Pam and



Craig Lord talks to Mark Foster, the former bad boy of British swimming, who has made good and suddenly thrust himself on to the world stage

Mike Higgs at Southend-on-Sea. At 11, he won five of six possible age-group titles and was said by Higgs to have the greatest potential to be a world-class swimmer he had seen.

That was the last time his father, Robin, saw Mark compete, as his marriage to Mark's mother, Sheila, broke down. Circumstance and early success, however, led him down a road designed to tap his talent but destined to lead him into trouble.

At 13, he was dispatched from his Essex home to take up a half-scholarship at Millfield School in the West Country so that he could combine school and sport. But, easily led by his schoolmates and not academic, he turned away from the discipline of early-morning training. Talent brought him considerable domestic success but he was thought unlikely to

do much further afield. At 16, he switched to Kelly College in Tavistock and started to respond to the training of Archie Brew.

Their relationship was short. Foster found a cheque card and cheques belonging to a fellow pupil and decided, with two others, to enjoy a night on the tiles at a casino in Cardiff one weekend. The court fined him £260 and the £5,000-a-term school expelled him. It is a teenage record Foster is keen to forget. "I didn't actually sign the cheque," he said. "It was just one of those things that's in my past."

He has come along way since placing 23rd at 50 metres freestyle at the Seoul Olympics, after which he retired and was thought lost to the sport. Since returning to swimming in 1991, after watching his Barnet Copthall training partner Mike Fibbens win the bronze medal at

the European championships, he has given every indication that his tendency to follow and not lead has been suppressed.

He has moved out of London to St Neots, where the country life in the quiet family home of friends keeps him away from the temptations of city life.

The absence of Fibbens, who is training in Australia, from Barnet Copthall, where Doug Campbell is his coach, is also a plus. "I found I couldn't resist Mike and the lads when they wanted to go out clubbing and I couldn't get up in the morning," Foster said. "That's why I moved. I control myself now."

Now 22, Foster expresses new determination to translate what he has proven in a short-course pool into a long-course pool when he faces Popov at the European championships this summer.

In his favour are the momentum and confidence gained in the World Cup and the Ponds Forge pool in which he thrives. But he has yet to prove that his low boredom threshold and difficulty in feeling motivated will count against him.

His name is unusual for his

profession: he has none of the aggression and arrogance common in many world-class sprinters. Yet Foster believes that to be a plus. "I am gentle and I'm not even aggressive when I'm actually racing."

You would never know it. This animal, is made to pounce; his dive is the envy of Popov and his kindness of spirit in victory and defeat is a mystery to those who expect a more competitive approach. He has only truly been noticed on the international stage since Barcelona. Fibbens went there the great hope but it was Foster who finished sixth in the final behind Popov, having been level with the Russian at halfway.

Foster, who is now at ease on the international circuit and made stronger by the support he receives from parents, two sisters and his father, who now calls regularly, believes he can repeat his winter speed in a long-course pool this summer. Popov knows it, too. "The boy done well," he said in Milan. If Popov is to repeat the phrase in August, Foster will have become the first Briton to win a European freestyle title since Bobby MacGregor in that finest summer of English sport, 1966.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Corsie triumphs in Scottish challenge

RICHARD Corsie and David Gourlay Jr briefly turned the Midland Bank world indoor bowls championship at Preston into an all-Scottish challenge yesterday (David Rhys Jones writes). Corsie, of Edinburgh, and Gourlay, of Ayrshire, met in the second round of the singles in what was widely expected to be a very close match, but though Gourlay led the opening set 6-4, Corsie, the No. 8 seed, took the set on a treble. From then on, Corsie, who won the event in 1989 and 1991, was comfortably in charge against Gourlay. Last year's Scottish champion, and won the next two sets 7-2, 7-2.

Peter Bellis and Gary Lawson, of New Zealand, surprised Cameron Curtis and Ian Schiback, of Australia, by winning the first two sets of their pairs match, but, like Gourlay, surrendered in the second half. After winning the first set 7-1, the New Zealand pair turned a 0-6 deficit into a 7-6 win in the second. However, they scored only three singles as the Australians mopped up the last three sets to open the way for an attractive semi-final against the championship holders, David Bryant and Tony Allcock.

Currier in favour

RUGBY LEAGUE: Andy Currier has taken the first step towards resurrecting his international career after an absence of nearly 3½ years. The Widnes centre, 26, has been called into Great Britain's squad of 19 for the match with France in Carcassonne on March 7. Widnes have two other players in the squad — Richie Eyles at forward, and Stuart Spruce, at full back. But the Welsh trio of Jonathan Davies, Paul Moriarty and John Devereux have been omitted. Spruce is one of three squad members still uncapped at international level. The Castleford scrum half, Mike Ford, and the St Helens full back, David Lyon, are the others.

SQUAD: Backs: A Bateman (Warrington), G Connolly (St Helens), A Currier (Widnes), S Edwards (Wigan), M Ford (Castleford), D Lyon (St Helens), P Newlove (Castleford), M O'Dell (Wigan), G Schofield (Widnes), S Spruce (Widnes), Forwards: D Bates (Widnes), F Cusack (Wigan), A Durrant (Widnes), E Eyles (Widnes), H Harty (Leeds), S McKenna (Hull), S Nicolle (St Helens), A Platt (Wigan), K Sharpe (Wigan).

Cape crusaders

YACHTING: Robin Knox-Johnston and Peter Blake, in the catamaran Enza, yesterday passed the Cape of Good Hope, one of the three great capes of the world, in their attempt to circumnavigate the globe in fewer than 80 days. Cape Leeuwin, the southern tip of Australia, and Cape Horn lie ahead on a voyage on which they are about 1,000 miles, or just over three days, ahead of schedule. They are still about 300 miles astern of their French rivals, Bruno Peyron and his crew, in Commandore Explorer. Another Frenchman, Olivier de Kersauson, is heading towards Cape Town for repairs to be made to his trimaran Charal, which has a badly damaged starboard float.

Praise for Lathwell

CRICKET: Mark Lathwell, of Somerset, hailed as a "special talent" by the coach, Norman Gifford, played a bold innings of 40 yesterday to give much-needed impetus to the England A team's second innings in the drawn match against Queensland in Caloundra. "Mark plays shots that only a batsman with special ability could produce. He can go all the way," Gifford said. Graham Thorpe, the heaviest run-maker on a tour which has reached the halfway stage, was 33 not out when England A declared at 104 for three at the end of a rain-ravaged match. The next game is a four-day fixture against South Australia, starting in Adelaide on Friday. Scoreboard, page 40

Group 4 holds lead

YACHTING: Group 4 Securitas held a narrow lead over the rest of the British Steel Challenge fleet last night as the yachts faced the prospect of their first real headwinds since leaving Hobart on the third leg of the round-the-world race. With the fleet racing in a rough line abreast of each other, Group 4 has 3,878 miles to go to reach Cape Town, South Africa, with Commercial Union close behind facing 3,988 miles and Nuclear Electric, in third place, 3,906 miles. Conditions deep in the Southern Ocean, where the fleet is sailing, are not easy with magnetic compasses becoming unreliable because the yachts are so close to the magnetic south pole, and with winds of gale-force approaching.

Schwer nominated

BOXING: Billy Schwer, right, the British and Commonwealth lightweight champion, has been nominated as challenger for the European title held by Jean-Baptiste Mendy, of France. Mickey Duff, Schwer's manager, said yesterday he would be bidding in excess of £100,000 to bring the bout to England. Schwer defends his titles against Paul Burke, of Preston, at Wembley tomorrow.



Slalom race shelved

SKIING: The international skiing federation has confirmed the super-giant slalom, which was not raced in the world championships at Morioka, Japan, two weeks ago because of bad weather, will not be held. It was the first time since the competition finished incomplete. The Austrian, Stefan Eberharter, who won in 1991, keeps his title until the next championships, in Spain in 1995. Kjetil Andre Aamodt, the Norwegian Olympic champion in the event, had been in contention for a third title after winning the giant slalom and slalom in Japan.

Reynolds looks at ban

ATHLETICS: Harry "Butch" Reynolds may face another ban if he does not drop his \$27.3 million (£19 million) damages claim against the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF). "If we have no word from Reynolds by February 23 at the latest, the IAAF Council will decide what action to take," a federation spokesman said yesterday. Reynolds, back from a 2½-year drug ban, qualified on Sunday to run the 400 metres for the United States at the world indoor championships in Toronto next month. A United States court ordered the IAAF to pay in December, but so far the body has refused to recognise its jurisdiction.

Champions to compete

BADMINTON: The Olympic singles champions, Allan Budu Kusuma and Susi Susanti, will compete in next month's Yonex All-England championships at Wembley, which has one of the best entries ever. The Indonesians, who won their country's first gold medals, in Barcelona, after 40 years of trying plan to marry soon. One of Kusuma's main rivals at Wembley will be the champion, Liu Jun, of China. Darra Hall, of England, who won the Danish Open in October, and Paul-Erik Hoyer, the Dane who is European champion, will lead the European challenge.

SQUASH

Marshall's art put into perspective

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

CHRIS Dittmar's intense, straight-games assault upon his compatriot, Rodney Martin, in the semi-finals of the Leekes Classic in Cardiff on Sunday was, indirectly, another indication of the progress of Peter Marshall, the England No. 1, with whom Dittmar was considerably more involved in the previous round.

Martin, a former world champion and admired as the greatest shotmaker in the game, suffered a 48-minute, 15-13, 17-16, 15-6 defeat by Dittmar; Marshall lost in 92 minutes, 15-10, 9-15, 9-15, 15-10, 15-12.

Martin was poorly served, perhaps, by the referee's distant judgement of balls he felt his opponent had delivered into the tin, but he failed to contain either the movement or the aggression of the left-handed Dittmar.

Marshall, on the other hand, dominated the larger part of their quarter-final and pushed Dittmar into an extraordinarily passive spell early on. For a tall man who uses

a unique two-handed grip demanding a high degree of body twist, Marshall's coverage of the best shots from one of the game's most skilled and shrewd tacticians was astounding.

He led 2-1 in games and 9-7 in the fourth game before Dittmar could find a response strong enough to stop the rot, and then lost mainly by choosing the wrong counter-approach.

"I allowed myself to be drawn into the exchange of shots and winners which Chris developed after hitting a good nick to take 8-9 in that fourth game," Marshall, 21, said.

"I know he was feeling the pace and, if I had chosen instead to keep working him hard around the court, I might have regained control."

Dittmar responded: "I wouldn't give you two dollars for most of the young English players, but Marshall is a tough proposition with real potential for a breakthrough."

Mickelson earns first title

PHIL Mickelson, of the United States, a rookie on the US PGA Tour, won the Buick Invitational golf tournament by four shots for his first victory as a professional on Sunday.

Mickelson, 22, who won the Tour in Arizona while still an amateur in 1991, recorded a final round of 65, seven under par, on the south course at Torrey Pines, near La Jolla. His aggregate, 278, was ten under par.

"This really is a special feeling," he said. "A lot is expected of me and I had something to prove. I feel a burden has been lifted from my shoulders."

Dave Rummells, who took a one-stroke lead into the final round, had to settle for second place with a 70, on 282, while Payne Stewart finished third on 283.

"Phil is going to be one of the greatest players of all time," Rummells said. "He has a phenomenal touch on the green. It looks effortless."

Confident Davis sets sights on seventh world crown

By PHIL YATES

STEVE Davis is optimistic about winning the world championship for a seventh time in April after playing at his most dominant for four years to beat Stephen Hendry 10-4 in the final of the European Open at Antwerp on Sunday.

Not since Davis captured the game's premier title for the last time in 1989 has he taken such command of a tournament. Hendry, who was looking to consolidate on his fifth consecutive triumph in the Benson and Hedges Masters the previous week, had no answer to a potent mixture of tight safety play and rock-solid potting from Davis.

"This has got to make me more of a serious contender for the championship," Davis said. "The standard is so high nowadays you can't guarantee what you're going to do in the future but, realistically, my confidence level is high enough to do well at The Crucible."

"I have no preconceived ideas about what the remainder of the season holds for me.

At 35, after doing what I have done, it would be easy for me to fade away quietly, but I am still in there fighting and that's very satisfying."

Davis, who has amassed 64 tournament wins worldwide, climbs from sixth to fourth in the provisional world rankings and is within striking distance of Jimmy White and John Parrott, both eliminated in the qualifying rounds of the European Open.



Davis: dominating form

From his doleful expression throughout the final, it was clear that Hendry found such a heavy defeat against his greatest rival particularly unpalatable. The fact that he has regained the provisional world No.1 placing from White and, indeed, established a substantial lead that should ensure he remains there at the end of the season, seemed of little consequence.

Tony Jones, the 1991 European Open champion, was the first surprise casualty of the £250,000 Wickeys British Open, which began at the Assembly Rooms, Derby, yesterday. Jones, a journeyman professional from Australia,

Eddie Charlton, the veteran Australian player, hurried to a 5-0 victory over Colin Roscoe, of Wales. Charlton, 63, who is based in Sheffield, set up a meeting with Hendry or Jason Ferguson in the last 32. Silvio Francisco, of South Africa, dropped only one frame against Ian Sargent, the young Welshman.

مكتبة من الأصل

BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast** (91655) 7.00 **BBC Breakfast News** (9305887)
- 9.05 Kilroy** Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (9056502) 9.45 **Rising King** Game show (s) (6026588)
- 10.00 News** regional news and weather (9691655) 10.05 **Playdays** For the very young (s) (6415526)
- 10.30 Good Morning...** with Anne and Nick. Weekend magazine series presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Today's edition includes a love story, a topical phone-in and needlecraft hints (s)
- 10.45 News** (CeeFax) and weather at 11.00 and 12.00 (10612965)
- 12.15 Pebble Mill** Alan Titchmarsh is joined by the American singing duo Charles and Eddie (s) (7356191) 12.55 **Regional News** and weather (98178782)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News** with Philip Hayton. (CeeFax) Weather (14033)
- 1.30 Neighbourhood** (CeeFax) (s) (87698120) 1.50 **First Letter First** Game show hosted by Don Maclean (s) (87698236)
- 2.15 Film: Vice Squad** (1953, b/w) starring Edward G. Robinson and Paulette Goddard. A well-paced account of a typical day in the life of a Los Angeles police detective. Captain Barnaby is looking for two bank robbers who shot one of his colleagues and then compound their crime by taking a hostage when their next robbery goes wrong. Directed by Arnold Levin (5835192)
- 3.40 Cartoon Double Bill** (930087) 3.50 **Picnicker** (s) (8723678) 4.15 **Jackanory** Cathy Tyson with the last part of the story *Seeing Off Uncle Jack* (r) (s) (1754542) 4.30 **The New Yogi Berra Show** (r) (1067507) 4.35 **Hanger 17**. This week's acts include students from the London School Centre performing a futuristic dance. (CeeFax) (s) (3884965)
- 5.00 Newsround** (1297656) 5.10 **Grange Hill**. Children's drama serial set in a comprehensive school (CeeFax) (s) (4769033)
- 5.35 Neighbours** (r) (CeeFax) (s) (392978). Northern Ireland: Inside
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News** with Peter Sissons and Jennie Bond. (CeeFax) Weather (120)
- 6.30 Regional News Magazines** (472) Northern Ireland, Neighbours
- 7.00 Holiday** Jill Dando reports from South Africa. Eamonn Holmes samples larger loess pizza, and Kathy Taylor takes a weekend break driving round the Cotswolds (CeeFax) (s) (8946)
- 7.30 The Enders** (CeeFax) (s) (655)
- 8.00 Citizen Smith**. Wolfe and his less-than-eager fellow members of the Tooting Pantomime Front engage a private detective in order to prove Speed's innocence. Starring Robert Lindsay (r). (CeeFax) (7894) Wales: The Noble Guide
- 8.30 A Question of Sport** presented by David Coleman. This week Ian Whitman and Bill Beaumont are joined by Paul Ince, Matthew Pinsent, Martin Offiah and Alison Nicholas (CeeFax) (s) (6101)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News** with Mary Lewis. (CeeFax) Regional news and weather (965)
- 9.30 Smith and Jones**. Highlights from earlier series' chosen by Mel and Gryll themselves (r). (CeeFax) (39491). Wales: Week In Week Out
- 10.00 Harry Enfield's Television Programme**. Showcase for the many characters of the talented comedian (r). (CeeFax) (s) (84502). Northern Ireland: Home Truths



Recording session: Leonard Bernstein conducts (10.30pm)

- 10.30 Omnibus: Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story**. The Omnibus retrospective season continues with this behind-the-scenes documentary looking at how Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story* was recorded (r). (CeeFax) (82878). Northern Ireland: 10.40 *Study* and 11.00 *Omnibus*
- 12.00 Film: What's New, Pussycat?** (1965) starring Peter Sellers, Peter O'Toole and Woody Allen. Zany comedy about a disturbed fashion editor with a liking for beautiful women who goes to a psychiatrist when he thinks he is falling in love and finds out that the doctor is as mad as himself. Directed by Clive Donner (914521). Northern Ireland: 12.30-2.05 *Film: What's New, Pussycat?*
- 1.45am Weather** (9698811). Ends at 1.50
- 2.15-4.45 BBC Select: Executive Business Club**. Scrambled (84811) 3.15-4.45 **Legal Network Television**. Scrambled (9038)

BBC2

- 6.45 Open University Motion** — Newton's Laws (4177168) 7.10 *Biology Form and Function* Insects (8413287) 7.35 *The Message of Starlight* (4414588)
- 8.00 Breakfast News** (5022120) 8.15 **Westminster** (2351472)
- 8.40 Daytime On Two**. Educational programmes include: for children, *22 Johnson and Friends* (s) (48108472) 1.30 *Orville and Cuddles* (801264101) 1.35 *Butterfly* (90163472)
- 2.00 News** and weather followed by *Yan and Me* (r) (51309675) 2.15 *Arthur Negus Enjoys*. Snooker star Ray Reardon accompanies Arthur Negus around Llanrhoddy House, near Bodmin, Cornwall (r) (43637304) 2.30 *See Hear* Magazine for the hearing impaired (r) (CeeFax) (s) (733)
- 3.00 News** (CeeFax) and weather (7753830) followed by **Westminster Live**. Includes prime minister's questions (791323) 3.50 **News** (CeeFax) regional news and weather (8627323)
- 4.00 World Indoor Bowls Championship 1993** Dougie Donnelly introduces coverage of the second round of the singles competition from the Guild Hall, Preston (s) (6323)
- 5.00 France Means Business**. The third of a five-part series on how the French do business focuses on one of the country's biggest retail chains, Leclerc (9052)
- 5.30 Film 93** with Barry Norman (r) (s) (149)
- 6.00 Film: The Adventures of Robin Hood** (1938) starring Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland and Basil Rathbone. Swashbuckling adventures of the hero of Sherwood Forest as he joins battle with the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and falls for the charms of Maid Marian. Directed by Michael Curtiz and William Keighly (11886101)
- 7.45 Assignment: Fatal Latitudes**. Brian Barron investigates why the fight against malaria seems to be a losing one for the time being (902743)
- 8.30 Food and Drink**. Includes a group of Scots porridge-tasting and a recipe for lemon marmalade pie (s) (4743)
- 9.00 Quantum Leap**. Science fiction drama series starring Scott Bakula as a time-travelling scientist, in this episode turning up in the year 1982, at the time of the Cuban missile crisis (CeeFax) (s) (883526)



Battle to eat: Dr Dee Dawson examines a patient (9.50pm)

- 9.50 40 Minutes: I Won't... I Can't**
- CHOICE**. A sympathetic film about the scourge of anorexia focuses on Rhodes Farm in London, where Dr Dee Dawson runs the only clinic in the country for young sufferers. The programme powerfully evokes the symptoms of the condition, but is less revealing in other areas. Beyond general sympathy and understanding it is not clear what Dr Dawson offers that other sources of treatment do not. The film is also hazy about the origins of anorexia, though it seems to be associated with unhappy home backgrounds. We are left with a disturbing portrait of the victims, mostly girls and all suffering a desperate loss of self-esteem. There is also a vignette of the indomitable Dr Dawson, who combines looking after other people's problems with bringing up her own. The irony is that she is overweight and on a permanent diet. (CeeFax) (s) (975410)
- 10.30 Newsnight** presented by Franche Scott. Includes the first two reports by John Simpson in Cuba (281584)
- 11.15 The Late Show** (s) (147120) 11.55 **Weather** (342236)
- 12.00 Learning to Learn**. Four students complete their first year with the Open University (7316182). Ends at 12.25am
- 2.00 Night School**. TV. Five programmes from the Science in Action course (52973). Ends at 4.00

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ITV LONDON

- 6.00 GMTV** presented by Michael Wilson until 7.00 when Eamonn Holmes and Fiona Armstrong take over. Their guests include Janet Morgan and Kris Kristofferson (8091656)
- 9.25 Jeopardy!** Back-to-front quiz game hosted by Steve Jones (9116955) 9.55 **London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6491846)
- 10.00 The Time... The Place...** Topical discussion (9791304)
- 10.30 Mervyn** Weekly magazine series (82360236)
- 10.40 Widdowson** Children's puppet series (8146051)
- 12.30 Lunchtime News** (Teletext) and weather (7838120) 1.05 **London Today** (Teletext) and weather (80256236)
- 1.15 Home and Away** Australian family drama serial (Teletext) (6491846) 1.45 **A Country Practice** Medical drama (s) (763944)
- 2.15 It's a Dad's Life**. The last in the series includes a visit to a clinic in London that offers animals spiritual healing. (Teletext) (s) (782255) 2.45 **Families**. Drama serial (s) (2647946)
- 3.10 ITN News headlines** (7771236) 3.15 **London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7770507) 3.30 **Blockbusters**. General knowledge quiz game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness (5544586)
- 3.50 Rod 'n' Emu** Animation (r) (8621149) 4.00 **Teletext: Tees** (s) (1726472) 4.15 **Dreamstone**. Animated adventure series (r) (s) (3873743) 4.40 **Oasis**. Episode eight of the drama series about a group of youngsters who congregate on a south London wasteland. (Teletext) (s) (81544110)
- 5.10 Home and Away** (r). (Teletext) (8620694)
- 5.40 Early Evening News** (Teletext) and weather (911052)
- 6.00 London Tonight** (Teletext) (28014)
- 6.00 Emmerdale**. (Teletext) (3014)
- 7.30 Beam and Da Silva**. The first of a new investigative series in which Roger Beam and Denise Da Silva attempt to uncover London scandals, beginning with high street "charity" collectors who line their own pockets with money donated by the public (192)
- 8.00 The Bill: Missionary Work**. Chief Insp Conway and PC Garfield are keen to use police funds to help a local youth club. Are they supporting a worthy cause? With guest star Muriel Pavlow (Teletext) (2782)



Scouting for talent: Clive Francis, Beatie Edney (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Comedy Playhouse: The 100%**
- CHOICE**. In a prize-winning attempt to find new situation comedies, Carlton Television has revived a BBC idea from the 1960s. The BBC's *Comedy Playhouse* led to *Steptoe and Son* and *Till Death Us Do Part*. This new set of eight pilots will justify itself if it throws up anything half as good. Tonight's offering is a promising black farce from Rob Grant and Doug Naylor, creators of the weekly television sitcom *Red Dwarf*. Clive Francis plays the harassed head of a showbusiness agency on the lookout for bankable new clients. He is not helped in this endeavour by unreliable staff and an hysterical Brazilian wife (Beatie Edney) given to throwing chairs through windows. A frenetic half hour packed in a farce, a stalling, a suicide, sharp lines and dollops of mildly bad taste. It could just make a series. (Teletext) (s) (1897)
- 9.00 Taggart**. Episode two of the three-part drama starring Mark McManus as the eponymous Glasgow detective. (Teletext) (s) (1507)
- 10.00 News at Ten**. (Teletext) Weather (94830) 10.30 **London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (123743)
- 10.40 Moscow Gold** Jimmy Red, in Moscow, investigates the influence that Soviet communism had on British political and industrial life from 1917 to its collapse in 1991. (Teletext) (107217)
- 11.40 Phoenix** Cell Block 11, Australian drama series (133052)
- 12.30 The Little Picture Show**. Latest video releases reviewed (13415)
- 1.30 Film: Crack in the World** (1985) starring Dana Andrews and Janette Scott. Science fiction drama about an experiment that goes wrong causing the planet to crack. Directed by Andrew Marton (90415) 3.30 **Quiz Night**. Pub and club competition (8306)
- 4.00 The Beat**. Music and style magazine (r) (s) (21705)
- 5.00 Riviera**. Glossy French soap (51714)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News** (32665). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

- 6.45 Spiff and Hercules** (9083491)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast** presented by Chris Evans and, this week, Danni Minogue (15876)
- 9.00 You Bet Your Life**. American game show (s) (11507)
- 9.30 Schoots** (492304)
- 12.00 The Parliament Programme**. Zelnah Badawi with a round-up of news from both Houses (81743)
- 12.30 Sesame Street**. The guests are Ziggy Marley and Robin Williams (54491) 1.30 **Lift Off**. Children's entertainment (s) (41236)
- 2.00 Film: The Cowboy and the Lady** (1938, b/w) starring Gary Cooper and Marie Oberon. Comedy about a rodeo dancer who falls for the daughter of a presidential candidate he meets on a blind date. She convinces him that she is a poor girl struggling to make ends meet on top of looking after an alcoholic father. Directed by H. C. Potter (816507)
- 3.40 Adele and the Ponies of Ardmore**. A Welsh immigrant to Canada tells of her passion for breeding ponies (r) (8438897)
- 3.55 Paradise Lost**. A *Survival* documentary on the history of failed wildlife conservation on Hawaii (820632)
- 4.30 Countdown**. Words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (965)
- 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show**. The hostess talks about what it was like to interview Michael Jackson and some of the other 541 celebrities she has had on her programme (s) (8577859)
- 5.50 The Magic Roundabout**. Classic children's series (436052)
- 6.00 Crystal Maze**. Game show set in a medieval maze (r) (s) (27656)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News** (Teletext) Weather (306743) 7.50 **Comment** (966323)
- 8.00 Free For All: Tales from the Riverbank**. Viewer David Shepherd argues that angling is a barbaric sport and should be banned (Teletext) (7584)
- 8.30 The Pulse**. Emma Freud spends a night at the busy accident and emergency ward of Queen's Hospital, Nottingham. Plus the video diary of a GP and a report from an overworked junior doctor. (Teletext) (9439)
- 9.00 Without Walls: The Art of Tripping**

CHOICE. The actor Bernard Hill hosts a two-part exploration into the relationship between drug-taking and the arts. Alcohol, for this purpose, does not count. We are talking about opium, hashish and, as the film moves into the present century, mescaline and LSD. The device of having Hill travelling through history in a lift and stopping at various floors seems a shade pretentious but the content is solid enough. Actors play the subjects, who speak in their own words and include De Cunnery, Baudelaire, Gaudier and Cocteau. While not academics at their gloss and a doctor is on hand to explain how drugs affect the brain, if the huge question behind the series, of whether drugs help artists to make better art, remains largely unanswered, this is still a bold and imaginative attempt to tackle an intriguing theme (s) (9149)



War-time romance: farmer's wife Phyllis Logan (10.00pm)

- 10.00 Film: Another Time, Another Place** (1983)
- CHOICE**. The cinema debut of director Michael Radford, who has since made *1984* and *White Mischief*, this beautifully observed drama charts the tentative romance between a Scottish farmer's wife and an Italian prisoner of war. She is also a prisoner, shackled by a repressive society and he helps to liberate her. But he cannot free himself. Scripted by Radford from Jessie Kesson's novel, *Another Time, Another Place* is notable for its authenticity of its rural wartime setting, the deft drama contrasts between the Scottish villagers and the Italian prisoners and the truth of the performances. Phyllis Logan, now best known for *Lovesick*, plays the woman. Her portrayal had the critics reaching for superlatives. In the Times she was likened to Greta Garbo. It is sad that the British cinema has not given her the same chances again (551410)
- 11.55 Dream On**. Adult American comedy about the love life of a divorced New York publisher (r) (s) (910633)
- 12.30am The New King Cole Show** (b/w). The guests are Mel Torme and June Christy (75057)
- 1.00 It's Showtime at the Apollo** with Terence Trent D'Arby (r) (4807415). Ends at 1.55

VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**
- As London except 3.30-3.50 The Young Doctors (944588) 5.15-5.40 *Blockbusters* (962094) 6.00 *Home and Away* (70871) 6.25-7.00 *News* (940304) 7.30-8.00 *Food Gate* (195) 8.25-9.00 *Ant & Dec* (940796) 9.00-9.30 *EastEnders* (940796) 9.30-10.00 *McGee* (76950) 10.00-10.30 *The Little Picture Show* (134094) 10.30-11.00 *ITV Chart Show* (134094) 11.00-11.30 *News* (940796) 11.30-12.00 *Regional News* (940796) 12.00-12.30 *ITV Chart Show* (134094) 12.30-1.00 *News* (940796) 1.00-1.30 *Regional News* (940796) 1.30-2.00 *ITV Chart Show* (134094) 2.00-2.30 *News* (940796) 2.30-3.00 *Regional News* (940796) 3.00-3.30 *ITV Chart Show* (134094) 3.30-4.00 *News* (940796) 4.00-4.30 *Regional News* (940796) 4.30-5.00 *ITV Chart Show* (134094) 5.00-5.30 *News* (940796) 5.30-6.00 *Regional News* (940796) 6.00-6.30 *ITV Chart Show* (134094) 6.30-7.00 *News* (940796) 7.00-7.30 *Regional News* (940796) 7.30-8.00 *ITV Chart Show* (134094) 8.00-8.30 *News* (940796) 8.30-9.00 *Regional News* (940796) 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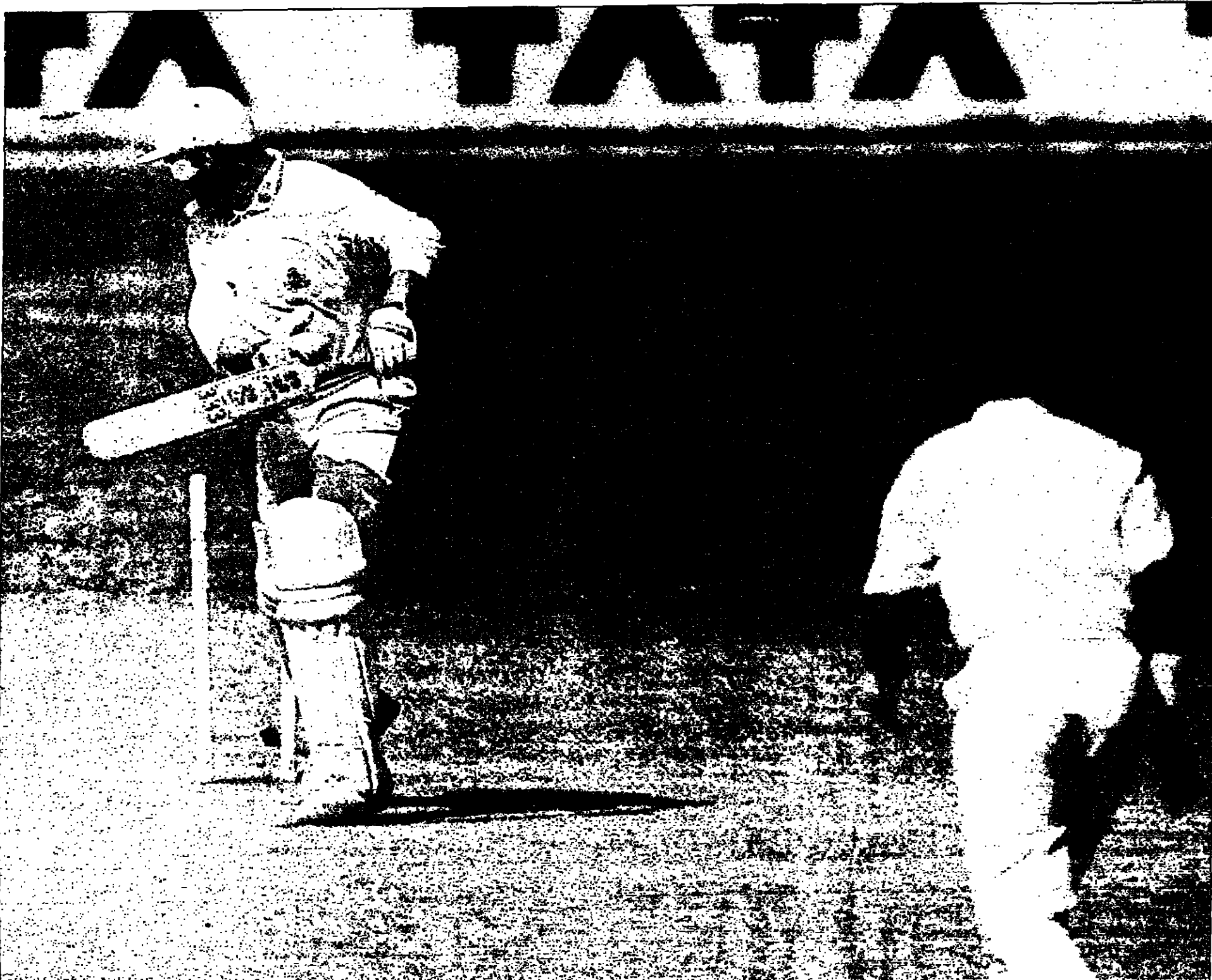
SPORT

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23 1993

Smith and Gatting hold firm as India threaten Test whitewash

Gooch left staring at defeat

GRAHAM MORRIS



Jumping ball: Gooch, the England captain, has his middle stump uprooted by Prabhakar as his side's second innings gets off to a dismal start in Bombay yesterday

FROM PETER BALL IN BOMBAY

IT WAS once again India's day in the third and final Test match here yesterday, with Vinod Kambli scoring 224, an Indian record against England, in only his third Test. By the close, Smith and Gatting offered a faint glimmer of hope that a rearguard action could yet save the game today.

With seven wickets in hand, England need 136 to make India bat again. More realistically, they need to bat until after tea, a formidable enough task on a turning fifth-day pitch. It is not quite as hopeless as it looked half an hour after tea yesterday as another early-order collapse left England at 34 for three.

At that stage, it seemed doubtful that England had the will or the ability to take the game into the final day before Smith and Gatting at last brought some order to the proceedings with an unbroken stand of 74. If they can continue this morning, they could provide a base for England's survival.

That seems a tall order, but yesterday's events put both the pitch and, late on, the Indian spinners into fresh perspective. The pitch is turning, but rarely doing so spitefully, and the best bowling on either side yesterday came from seam bowlers.

Chris Lewis continued his excellent form of the previous day in two long spells, earning full marks for stamina and sustained hostility. He deserved more than two wickets, distinguished ones though they were.

He was matched, for a shorter period, by Prabhakar, who claimed all three England wickets for eight runs in 22 balls and looked far more threatening, with his late movement and occasional awkward bounce, than the spinners on either side could manage in spite of constant turn.

Until Prabhakar's intervention, the day had been dominated by the Indian batsmen, and in particular by Kambli, as India reached 591, their highest home total against England. Azharuddin, who played a delightful cameo innings, Amre and Kapil Dev all supported him ably, but the little 21-year-old left-hander again stole the show as he moved on dancing feet into the record books.

From the start, Kambli allowed his attacking shots full rein. Azharuddin shared a stand of 50 in 15 overs before Lewis trapped him on the back foot, but the arrival of Amre brought England no relief.

If Kambli's footwork is nimble, Amre's would have Fred Astaire agog with admiration. He was quickly dancing down

the wicket to drive Tufnell for three off-side fours in consecutive balls as the next 50 took only nine overs. Amre reaching his own half-century—his second of the series—off just 58 balls.

He departed uncharacteristically after lunch, cutting a short ball from Hick straight to backward point. By then,

Kambli was in the 200s and records began to fall thick and fast as he passed first Viswanath's record 222 against England, and, immediately after, the highest score in a Bombay Test, Vinoo Mankad's 223 against New Zealand in 1955-6.

But with the highest score by an Indian in Test cricket,

Gavaskar's 236 against West Indies, in his sights, Kambli at last succumbed after batting for nearly ten hours as India suffered a minor collapse. First, after 56 overs of unstinting effort for no reward, Emburey's luck changed as he removed Kapil Dev and More in the space of three balls.

In the next over came the prize. Even when Kambli was in full flow, Lewis had beaten him time without number outside off stump, and at last he got his reward as Kambli drove at a wide half-volley for Gatting to pick up a splendid catch diving to his right at gully.

There was still time for Kumble and Chauhan to extend Emburey's suffering, adding three more wickets to the growing tally hit off him, and for Tufnell to pick up two cheap wickets with consecutive balls before England were on the rack, needing 244 to make India bat again.

Prabhakar is not truly fast, but he is a fast bowler to the depths of his soul, all bursting aggression. He tore into England, Stewart, as always, looked unhappy at his leg-before decision but there was no arguing with the slower ball that deceived Gooch and swung late to beat his forward push, or the snorter that exploded at Atherton off a length.

Smith and Gatting, however, settled in comfortably, and Smith's confidence for once survived the introduction of the spinners.

It may be too late, but there was a hint last night that England have begun to realise that the Indian trio are a long way short of unplayable, even on slow turners.

England won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings 347 (G A Hick 178).

Second Innings

*G A Gooch b Prabhakar	8	56	46	33	20
A J Stewart b Prabhakar	10	2	21	18	
A J Stewart b Prabhakar	10	2	21	18	
M A Atherton c More b Prabhakar	11	2	29	24	
Flicked outwinger to wicketkeeper	38	7	109	93	
R A Smith not out	31	5	92	80	
M W Gatting not out	31	5	92	80	
Extras (b 4, lb 3, w 1, nb 1)	9				
Total (3 wickets, 144min, 39 overs)	108				
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17 (Gooch 6), 2-26 (Atherton 7), 3-34 (Smith 1).					

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 7-1-21-0 (w 1); Prabhakar 8-2-27-3 (nb 1) (one spell each); Raju 10-4-25-0 (b 4-24-0, 2-0-2-0); Kumble 9-3-18-0; Chauhan 5-3-9-0 (one spell each).

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: Yes: 17.1 in 5.1 overs (Gooch 6), 50: 60min, 15.1 overs, 100: 120min, 33.5 overs.

INDIA: First Innings

N S Sidhu c Smith b Tufnell	79	1	12	205	201
Playing forward, low to ally point					
M Prabhakar c Blaney b Hick	44	1	4	155	134
Glanced turning ball to leg					
V G Kambli c Gatting b Lewis	224	23	608	411	
Tried shot low to short third man					
S R Tendulkar lbw b Tufnell	78	10	285	213	
Playing back					
*M Azharuddin lbw b Lewis	26	4	64	58	
Playing back					

Extras (b 4, lb 3, w 1, nb 1): 9. Total (3 wickets, 144min, 39 overs): 108.

P K Amre c DeFreitas b Hick	57	9	99	74	
Weak cut to backward point					
Kapil Dev c DeFreitas b Emburey	22	3	43	20	
Misused drive to backward point					
TK S More c Lewis b Emburey	0	2	2	3	
Top-edged sweep to short leg					
A Kumble c Atherton b Tufnell	18	1	26	16	
Sly hit to deep mid-wicket					
R K Chauhan c Atherton b Tufnell	15	2	23	13	
Drove full toss to deep mid-wicket					
S L V Raju not out	0	1	1	0	
Extras (b 5, lb 14, w 5, nb 6)	30				
Total (8 wickets, 189.3 overs)	591				

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-109 (Sidhu 59), 2-174 (Kambli 39), 3-388 (Kambli 149), 4-418 (Kambli 172), 5-619 (Kambli 211), 6-680 (Kambli 224), 7-560 (Kambli 224), 8-563 (Kumble 0), 9-591 (Chauhan 15).

BOWLING: DeFreitas 20-4-75-0 (4-2-2-0, 3-0-0-0, 5-1-32-0, 5-0-15-0, 3-1-12-0); Lewis 42-8-114-2 (w 2) (7-2-12-0, 5-1-14-0, 5-1-13-0, 7-4-8-0, 10-1-35-1, 8-0-31-1); Emburey 29-14-144-2 (15-5-21-0, 5-1-12-0, 7-2-9-0, 7-2-13-0, 5-0-22-0, 7-2-9-0, 7-1-15-0, 4-0-17-0, 4-1-24-2); Tufnell 36-3-61-2 (nb 6) (10-3-25-0, 3-0-4-0, 6-1-27-1, 7-1-12-0, 9-1-40-1, 4-0-31-0, 0-0-0-0); Hick 29-3-87-2 (8-1-41-1, 8-1-19-0, 5-1-12-0, 5-0-4-0, 5-0-21-1).

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 400: 58min, 148.4 overs: 450: 65min, 159.1 overs: 500: 88min, 168.2 overs. Lunch: 515-4 (Kambli 208, Amre 55), 172 overs: 550: 75min, 161.4 overs. Tufnell closed: 1-450.

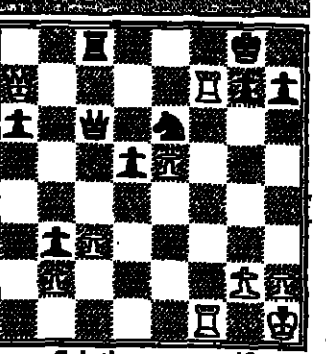
Kambli: 50 in 130min, 108 balls, 7 fours; 100 in 228min, 188 balls, 13 fours; 150 in 389min, 282 balls, 17 fours; 200 in 655min, 347 balls, 22 fours.

Umpires: P D Reppert and S Venkateswaraiah.

Previous results: First Test (Calcutta): India won by an innings and 22 runs.

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Later in this year Britain's Nigel Short will compete with Gary Kasparov for the world chess title. Kasparov's aggressive style of play has often been compared with that of the great Alexander Alekhine, whose games he studied as a boy. Today's position is from the game Alekhine - Bernstein, Vilna 1911. How did white finish off?



Solution on page 40.

By PHILIP HOWARD

TILDE
a. A diacritic
b. A Norwegian embroidered skirt
c. Tidal ebb
TOURANGEAU
a. A cast-iron cooking pot
b. An inhabitant of Touraine
c. A Quebecois magistrate

BAYMAN
a. A poet laureate
b. A native of Massachusetts
c. A philippic horse-lover
LUNGOMPA
a. A pedestrian monk
b. Pleurisy
c. A step-father
Answers on page 40

- ACROSS**
- Baton round (7,6)
 - Rhythmic Cuban dance (5)
 - Not perfect (7)
 - For every (3)
 - Pounce (5)
 - Betrayal (7)
 - Typewriter roller (6)
 - Gaelic, Welsh (6)
 - Saying power (7)
 - Rasher meat (5)
 - By way of (3)
 - Suffer anguish (7)
 - Cavalry sword (5)
 - Fire escape (9,4)
- DOWN**
- Rich writing section (6,7)
 - Pungent gas (7)
 - Acrobat bar (7)
 - Legal tribunals (6)
 - Bring together (5)
 - Ogles (5)
 - Performers' competition (6,7)
 - Afflict (3)
 - Stomach (3)
 - Stomach (3)
 - Ambassador's house (7)
 - Cakes, sweets chest (7)
 - Large cave (6)
 - By oneself (5)
 - Cake frosting (5)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3028

ACROSS: 1 Genocide 5 Opal 9 Virtual 10 Twang
11 This 12 Tumbler 14 Penny 16 Advent 19 Excerpt
21 Vice 24 Views 25 Pollute 26 Lost 27 Apoplexy
DOWN: 1 Give 2 North 3 Cruiser 4 Delete 6 Prairie
7 Legality 8 Atom 13 Upheaval 15 Nucleus 17 Develop
18 Step up 20 Rush 22 Crude 23 Very

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ATHLETICS 42

WORLD CHAMPION
FACES FOUR-YEAR
DRUGS SUSPENSION

Razor-sharp Indians have cutting edge



SIMON
BARNES

At the Bombay Test

England have come second in this Test series because India have outplayed them. No question about it. The England players are happy — even eager — to tell you that. "They have handled the conditions better than us," the England captain, Graham Gooch, said.

Actually, admitting you have been outplayed is always something of a cover-up. It is easier than talking about England's attitude problem, faulty selection and limited approach. But never mind the problems of England cricket right now. I would like to celebrate the magnificent Indian cricket of the past few days.

Sachin Tendulkar is advertising razors everywhere you look. It makes you sick. When I was 19 I didn't even possess a razor, let alone five Test centuries and an advertising contract. But people grow up early here — and I am not talking about beads.

Yesterday was the day for Tendulkar's pal, Vinod Kambli, who is all of 20. Lord, but he was furious when he was out. He had only made 224 — and the Indian Test record is Sunil Gavaskar's 236. Tendulkar made 78 in the innings and yesterday, a third old boy of Shardastram school, Pravin Amre, an old fellow of 24, hammered 57.

Shardashram v England, read a banner.

Ramakant Achrekar, who coached all three — they still call him "sir" — was not at the ground to watch on Sunday. He was, of course, at a school match on the Azad Maidan in the middle of this teeming, cricket-crazed city.

Achrekar said: "A former selector is on record of stating that Amre is a most ordinary player. He is giving them a good reply with his runs. And Vinod, according to some, is bound to fail at any moment. God is great — these curses only help making Kambli and Amre play tighter than before."

England have been out-fought and outwitted; they have also been outclattered. The Indian tail played a splendid "long-handle game", as my seat neighbour put it, to set England a daunting target. And just to show it is not all about guile and spin, Manoj Prabhakar dismissed England's top three in a burst of seam-up buster.

But the three Indian spin bowlers have done the bulk of the wicket-taking. One of these is an awkward looking chap in specs who looks like a serious-minded engineering student — mainly because he was exactly that a couple of years back. This is Anil Kumble, who is now 22. He used to be a quick bowler, and a "chucker". His brother told him to try leg spin to get out of the habit, under the theory that it is impossible to chuck a leggie. But it worked too well. Kumble has never gone back to the quick stuff.

Really, this Test match has been a triumph for India, and especially for Bombay. And I am not just talking about cricket. For it is only weeks ago that the city was a victim of the most dreadful rioting. Iqbal Khan went out to play for Bombay in a Wills Trophy match, and was the top scorer for his side. On his return, he found that his house had been burnt to the ground, because he is a Muslim.

There are other stories of cricket continuing in the riot. My friend, Rajdeep Sardesai wrote in *The Times of India*: "Indeed, even when the city was burning, the odd match was still being played on the city's maidans. In a world gone mad, it provided a touch of sanity." This Test match, then, has been a celebration of India, and a celebration of sanity. India needs all the sanity it can get, and so does England.

His words marked swiftness in the game, and the Labour government about the world supplies to areas of the UN relief zone to 10 months.

President Clinton's less appeared determined, strong reservation UN commander ground, and even own defence official.

The White House announcement, said, life was imminent.

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